

The Middlebury Campus

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Since 1905



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

EURIPIDES' TRAGEDY

Michaela Lieberman '10.5 pleads with Ben Orbison '12.5 in "Hecuba," which ran Nov. 18-21. For a review of the performance, see page 21.

Council approves gender neutral housing for 2011

By Kathryn DeSutter

NEWS EDITOR

Community Council has approved a proposal to implement gender-neutral housing for all sophomores, juniors and seniors beginning with rooming assignments for the fall semester of 2011.

In a meeting on Nov. 22, the Council unanimously supported the proposal to allow for co-ed housing assignments for students living in doubles. This proposal, titled the Rooming Choice Act, was also unanimously supported by the Student Government Association (SGA) last spring.

Although it is estimated that less than 10 percent of the student body will take advantage of this option, the approval marks a milestone for the College in challenging the heteronormative implications of current policies.

Student organizer and Middlebury Open Queer Association (MOQA) co-president Tony Huynh '13 commented that Community Council's endorsement "shows there is

strong support from the student body. Housing is a privacy and security issue that affects all students' mental health and identities. To ... reaffirm this unanimously sends a strong, clear message to the administration that having the ability to choose whom we live with makes our campus a more unified, diverse community."

Gender-neutral housing already exists in several peer institutions, including NESAC members Williams and Bowdoin.

The Council chose to implement

the policy for sophomores, juniors and seniors only because of concerns over how the policy would affect first-year rooming assignments based on First-Year Seminars and the Commons.

In a follow-up meeting on Nov. 29, Lark Mulligan '11 and Viveka Ray-Mazumder '11 presented a proposal to establish a Gender Council.

The Gender Council would seek to prevent gender problems on campus, provide guidance for implementing policies related to gender and

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 4

College's for-profit ventures expand

By Kathryn DeSutter

NEWS EDITOR

On Nov. 20 Middlebury Interactive Languages (MIL) officially launched its software program MidWorld Online at the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) conference in Boston, Mass.

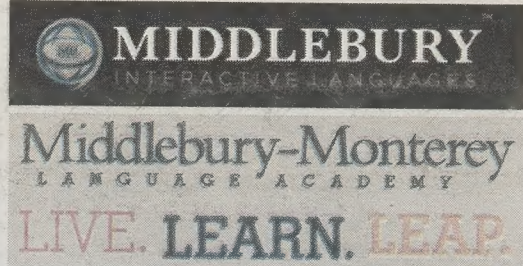
The demonstration was "very well attended," according to Michael Geisler, vice president of language schools, schools abroad and graduate programs at the College and chief learning officer at MIL.

In addition to the presentation at the conference, MIL also showcased the product at a reception for alumni and friends of the College.

"The interest has been great," added Geisler.

Director of Spanish Curricular Development for MIL and Assistant

Professor of Spanish Ana Martínez-Lage will also give a talk entitled "A New Approach to Online Language Teaching: New Technologies and Current Second Language Acquisition Principles" today, Dec. 2, at 4:30 p.m. in the Robert A. Jones '59 House Conference Room. Martínez-Lage



Of the College's for-profit ventures, MMLA continues to expand while MIL prepares for sale in January.

has worked with a team of authors to develop the Spanish curriculum for the MidWorld Online Program. The French curricular team is headed by Director of French School Aline Germain-Rutherford.

SEE MIL, PAGE 3

ED I applications remain steady

By Elizabeth Fouhey

STAFF WRITER

Though applications may continue to trickle in since the Nov. 15 Early Decision I deadline, data from the Office of Admissions reveals that the number of early applicants for the Class of 2015, 663, roughly equals numbers for the Class of 2014 and 2013 — 665 and 672, respectively.

This high number of ED I applicants, while unusual on the national level, is not an anomaly for the College's Admissions Office. The Col-

lege is often a national leader in the number of total ED applicants. In 2009, with the exception of one other institution, the College had the largest number of ED I and Early Decision II [ED II] applicants of any NESAC college or peer institution.

At peer institutions, the average number of total ED I and ED II applicants ranges anywhere from 400 to 500. Between ED I and ED II applications, the College usually sees a combined total of anywhere from 600 to 1000 prospective students.

"For whatever reason,

Middlebury seems to attract more early applicants [than other peer institutions]," said Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett. "When students like Middlebury, they really like Middlebury."

Despite the high numbers of ED applicants, according to Clagett, "the reality is, applying ED [to Middlebury] does not give a strategic advantage in being admitted."

This is due to the College's rigorous evaluation process.

"We don't admit anyone early unless we are virtually certain that we would take them Regular Decision," added Clagett.

Both the Class of 2013 and the

SEE EARLY, PAGE 4

Chronicle reports high compensation

By Kara Shurmantine

NEWS EDITOR

On Nov. 14, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* released its annual compensation report for the chief executives of 448 colleges and universities across the U.S., reporting on tax data from the calendar year 2008. According to the report, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz's total compensation for 2008 amounted to \$729,929.

The *Chronicle* report represents a dramatic change in how the U.S. Internal Revenue Service instructed private colleges to disclose compensation data for the 2008 reporting period. The new tax form, which is far more comprehensive than its predecessors, required colleges to report data from the 2008 calendar year, rather than the fiscal year ending in June. This change created overlap between the data reported

this year and that reported last year for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

These 2008 compensation packages also reflect salaries set before the recession. The *Chronicle* reported a base pay for Liebowitz of \$286,433; however, after 2008, in light of the economic climate, Liebowitz volunteered salary reductions totaling 10 percent along with, according to the Board of Trustees' Compensation Committee chair Frederick Fritz '68, several other compensation package reductions that have not been made public.

As a result of these reductions, Fritz wrote in a memo, "[Liebowitz's] 2009 and 2010 compensation were significantly less than 2008, and will be reported as such in the *Chronicle's* reports next year and the year after."

"I think the *Chronicle* this year

SEE CHRONICLE, PAGE 2



Vincent A. Jones

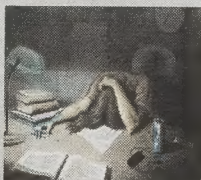
GLOBAL TALENT

Students perform at the annual International Student Organization show on Nov. 19 in McCullough.

this week

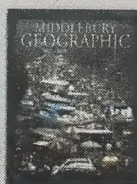


Crafty activism
Local craft fair benefits
10,000 Villages,
page 5.



Hit the books
Check out some unique
spots to study for finals,
pages 14-15.

Alternative news
A showcase of other student
publications,
page 19.





overseas briefing

by Jordan Weiss '12

TEL AVIV — We ended up having about 15 minutes for our last activity. We had eaten at a burger joint, shopped in a great outdoor mall and now we headed toward Jaffa Gate to visit the Western Wall. It was more of an afterthought, really. Our main purpose for going to Jerusalem had been the food and the shopping, but we had a little bit of time to kill and figured we might as well visit the holiest place in the world for all of Judaism before we had to catch our bus. It was not until later that I realized the absurdity of the situation — who goes to Jerusalem for a really good hamburger and a new pair of heels? Sure, the burger was juicy and delicious, and the heels were killer, but I still do not think either of those things would make it on any top-20 list of reasons people visit this famous city.

It seemed that after living in Israel for four months, I had grown more than a little blasé about its 3,000-year-old artifacts and world-famous religious sites. Someone else might look at my group of friends with contempt, maybe even disgust. After all, we were in a place few people get to visit in their lifetimes, faced with rare opportunities and experiences at every turn, and we were busy doing things that we could probably do anywhere in the world. However, I would be willing to bet that all of those people who would be so quick to judge us have been guilty of the exact same thing at some point in their lives. How many people live in New York and never visit the Statue of Liberty? How many people live in Chicago and never go to the top of the Willis (previously Sears) Tower? How many of us Midd kids get so wrapped up in our every day routines of studying and, well, studying, that we forget to hike, rock-climb, mountain-bike and take advantage of the incredible activities Vermont has to offer?

My day in Jerusalem made me conscious of more than just my actions on that particular day, or even the duration of my stay in Israel. I also realized that I have been guilty of overlooking these chances my whole life. I grew up in New Orleans, but I rarely ventured down the French Quarter, rarely listened to jazz in one of the many lounges, rarely sat and watched the giant steamboats on the Mississippi River. I am studying abroad for the full year, and I hope that this incident has taught me enough so that I will not go through the rest of my stay in Israel missing out on a land most people travel thousands of miles to see. More than that, though, I hope that wherever I live, I never start taking that place, and all it has to offer, for granted. Nobody ever wants to be a tourist in her city, but in some ways, tourists have it right. I am not proposing that everyone walk around with a giant SLR camera around her neck and an overstuffed fanny-pack around her waist, but take some time to appreciate the things around you, the unique offerings of Middlebury or wherever you happen to be.

MMC makes Polartec competition finals

By Jeremy Kallan
STAFF WRITER

The College placed as a finalist in the Polartec "Made Possible" contest, a competition among college outdoor clubs to win a \$10,000 grant for a project of their choice.

Polartec is a fabric company based in Lawrence, Mass., that subcontracts with and supplies textiles to outdoor gear companies such as Patagonia, Mountain Hardware, North Face and Marmot.

"They contacted a whole bunch of people who were the heads of outing clubs to see if people were interested," said Andrew Freeman '13, a member of the Middlebury Mountain Club (MMC) who spearheaded this project.

But Freeman got involved in a different way. This past summer, he worked for a rockclimbing magazine and became acquainted with a representative from Backbone Media, the company that developed the grant, which Freeman described as "a promotional tool in some ways."

"I came up with an idea that I'd like to use the money to create, publish and distribute a document that's a guide to all the outdoor resources and stuff around Middlebury," said Freeman. "Basically the premise is there's ton of cool stuff to do around here including a lot of really good climbing, kayaking, hiking, etc., but when you get here to this school it can be kind of hard to have all the know-how."

"If you're not a person that has a ton of initiative in that respect, it can be kind of hard to get into that world," he continued. "If you show up on campus and you want to go for a hike, it's kind of hard to

know who to ask. I thought it would be really great to have a document that you get on your first day with your orientation packet that says 'here's the stuff to do, here are the people to get in touch with and here's how you go about it.'"

In addition to topographical and other types of maps and written guides to a variety of outdoor activities, the guide also would have included information on environmental ethics.

"Andrew brought his idea to our board for approval, and we decided to support his project because we feel that providing information about outdoor opportunities in the Vermont landscape fit well with the mission of the Mountain Club," said Pier LaFarge '10.5, treasurer of the MMC.

After asking the MMC to propose this project in its name, Freeman created a video that serves as both the application and the promotion for the project. He shot and edited the video himself over the course of a couple weeks.

"The beginning starts out with a bunch of voiceovers about how to get to all these places and the point is that it all sounds very convoluted and very difficult to find," said Freeman. "The second half of the video is explaining what we want to do with the money."

A total of 19 schools submitted applications, out of whom four finalists were chosen: Middlebury, Appalachian State University, University of Massachusetts-Amherst and University of Idaho. All four videos were posted on the Polartec Facebook page under the tab "Made Possible" where people could vote once a day to decide the winner. The voting ended at mid-



Courtesy

night on Nov. 30 and Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. was announced as the winner yesterday with 10,900 out of 23,000 votes. Appalachian State will use the grant as seed money for an outdoor activities scholarship program.

The other finalists proposed a variety of projects. The University of Massachusetts wanted to provide adaptive outdoor equipment to allow people with physical handicaps to participate in outdoor activities, and the University of Idaho sought funding for an ongoing service project to remove trash from an abandoned ranch in a wilderness area.

Though the MMC did not win, Freeman appreciated the outpouring of support his proposal received.

"People have been a big help in getting the word out and trying to get people to vote for it," said Freeman. "The mountain club infrastructure here is great and there are hundreds of people on the mountain club e-mail list."

Chronicle reports high presidential pay

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

— it does this often — is trying to present more and more of the full picture," said Liebowitz. "The difficult aspect of that is that it's never apples to apples. Each year ... it presents newer and more inclusive information, but for the sake of understanding one year to the next it makes it more challenging."

The figure for total compensation reached by the *Chronicle* represents a composite of various types of cash and non-cash compensation Liebowitz receives that is divisible into three categories: salary, benefits and a presidential compensation package. Among comparator schools — a group of 24 peer institutions used by the Compensation Committee to assess the package it offers — Liebowitz's salary, with the accepted reductions, is lowest.

Liebowitz also noted that his "generous" benefits, like health insurance, disability and retirement contributions, are something he has in common with all employees of the College.

"The College has a generous benefits package compared to other colleges and universities, and that's across the board, not just for presidents," he said.

A large part of the third category, the presidential compensation package, is rent-free housing; Fritz described residence at the 3 South St. as "a Board-imposed requirement for the president at Middlebury."

Liebowitz explained what the decision meant for his family.

"Truth be told, I was the second or third president to ask that that not be a benefit," he said. "We asked to retain our house in Cornwall ... but the board has had presidents living at 3 South Street since 1917, so we do that and we get charged for that of course as a benefit, and then everything else that goes into supporting that house."

Like Liebowitz's salary, the amount spent on household support has decreased since 2008 due to the recession, but it will always play a part in the president's compensation as Liebowitz and his wife, Jessica, host many events at their house. The cost of the house, along with household support and travel expenses, are all components of the Presi-

dent's pay that the Compensation Committee "deem[s] necessary to accomplish the job," said Fritz.

A final factor in the compensation package reported by the *Chronicle* is known as deferred compensation. Deferred compensation can take many forms, including bonuses, severance pay or supplemental retirement pay, and has become a common feature of compensation packages for the chief executives of U.S. colleges over the last few years. The *Chronicle* reported Liebowitz's deferred compensation as amounting to \$169,404 for 2008.

The Board included deferred compensation "as an important tool in its 2003 presidential search process to recruit and, more importantly, retain Middlebury's president," said Fritz. One way in which Middlebury's offer differs from that of many institutions is that it is subject to 100 percent forfeiture.

"It only becomes my benefit upon certain conditions, one of them of course is if I fulfill my obligations to the job, secondly if I serve a specific amount of time," said Liebowitz. "If I meet those criteria, then it becomes mine."

Liebowitz, who is also a tenured member of the Geography department, explained the personal significance of deferred compensation for his career plans and for other presidents receiving such a benefit.

"For me, deferred compensation has always been tied to my next career," he said. "My own personal belief has always been that once one finishes a presidency, one moves on and gives up the tenured position. ... I think that's what it's for, and I think the Board has been very aware of that and so it sets aside a certain amount of money so I can take the time at the end of my presidency to move into another career."

The Compensation Committee undergoes a thorough process of external review to determine whether the compensation package it offers Liebowitz each year is appropriate. Each year, it considers external compensation data, the relative size of the College's budget compared to peer institutions, the operations of the College's international campuses and affiliate schools and, crucially, the president's performance against a set of predetermined goals as inputs into any decision-making. The Committee further relies on the legal opin-

ion of a third party "industry expert, opining that our overall package is well within market norms," Fritz said.

Fritz supported his Committee's compensation decision on the basis of Liebowitz's performance as President.

"Middlebury has a first-class president who earns fair compensation for his outstanding performance," he said.



TRIVIA NIGHT

THURSDAY // 9-11 P.M. // THE GRILLE //
DRINK SPECIALS, SNACKS AND PRIZES
// 21+ BRING 2 FORM OF ID.

FFF: THE OTHER GUYS

FRIDAY // 7 & 10 P.M. // DANA
AUDITORIUM

ATWATER HOLLY BALL

FRIDAY // 10 P.M. - 1 A.M. // ATWATER
DINING HALL // FREE //
SEMI-FORMAL ATTIRE // WITH DJ
UNSCRIPTED // COOKIES, FLATBREAD &
SPARKLING CIDER // 21+ BRING 2 FORM
OF ID // FIRST 50 GUESTS GET FREE
TUXEDO T-SHIRTS!

MIL prepares to launch in January

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Martínez-Lage's lecture will focus on the pedagogical principles used in the curriculum and format of the MiddWorld Online program. Martínez-Lage will explain these principles and show samples of their application in the Spanish I MIL course.

A beta version of the software has been released and is currently being tested in a number of schools "mostly in the New York City Area," said Geisler. The results of these tests will be reported by mid-December. After analyzing these results, MIL hopes to officially launch the product in January of 2011.

"We've had so many requests from seventh through 12th grade schools around the country wanting to be beta site testers for this program, which is encouraging, but it also reflects the dire state of language teaching in those areas. It's an interesting sort of opportunity," said President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz.

MIL represents a collaboration between the College's own faculty and Virginia-based online learning company K12, Inc. The company represents a for-profit venture by the College as outlined in the strategic financial plan that Liebowitz announced in February.

"Finances were not a missing piece of this," commented Liebowitz. "This came up before the recession, but the idea that this venture could support the College financially means that there's less pressure on comprehensive fee increases and that there could be less pressure on the endowment earnings we have been working from. There's a positive for the College as well, potentially."

MIL will release MiddWorld Online, an online language learning software program, in both Spanish and French.

"We are really developing the product to serve three different populations: one, the individual learner, who doesn't have access to language teaching ... second, a hybrid situation where you have schools that don't have enough money to hire teachers for foreign languages ... third, for direct, face-to-face high school classes... [the product] can actually be used like a very interactive electronic online textbook," said Geisler.

For schools that lack funding to hire full-time teachers, Geisler stressed that the software is not a replacement for language instructors.

"For those kind of situations we can then provide the program with the additional interactive, collaborative part, plus a teacher who meets with the students once a week," said Geisler.

Martínez Lage explained that the weekly "sessions with a remote teacher are not instructional sessions per se that introduce new material ... those sessions are review and feedback sessions."

"Many [of the] activities that are teacher-graded — both oral activities and written activities — are sent back to the student with feed-

back. The student then has an opportunity to go back and correct, resubmit, etcetera and then in the weekly sessions ask questions," added Martínez-Lage.

Martínez-Lage explained that these weekly sessions would mostly be held via videoconference, where students would be able to communicate with the teachers from remote locations.

In addition to software for students, MIL also offers its Professional Development Program in which teachers will be trained to utilize the software.

"We'll have to hire teachers and train teachers how to work with our product, because it's a lot more collaborative and interactive than anything else that's out there," said Geisler.

Teachers planning to use MiddWorld Online will be trained in seminars, either in concentrated markets such as New York or Boston or at the Language Schools in Monterrey or Middlebury.

In terms of the overall structure of the program, Martínez-Lage explained how the different components involve interaction among students and teachers.

"The learning environment that we have developed has three components: first, what we refer to as the 'core course,' with 14 units and 10 lessons per unit, based on authentic materials taken mostly from video shot in 8 different locations... second, an online community, and then a 3-D game," said Martínez-Lage.

According to Martínez-Lage, this online community, titled Language Park, "will allow for real-time oral and written interaction but also for lots of asynchronous interaction, as students will post their work, comments and ideas in a wiki, a forum, etcetera."

"The idea is that students belong to a community of learners where the content they're learning is shared with others," added Martínez-Lage.

MIL teamed up with Newburyport, Mass.-based company Muzzy Lane to design and build the 3-D software. The MiddWorld Online product is modeled after the Muzzy Lane "American Dynasties" program, which utilizes user input in order to generate the interactions among the 3-D figures, which are voiced by native speakers.

"We want to have interesting games for students to play," said Geisler. "We want them to learn, but we also push very hard with the developing team that these need to be engaging and fun because you want students to go there not just because they have to but also because they want to."



Courtesy

MiddWorld Online will incorporate an interactive 3D role-playing component to help users improve their language skills.

The program's curriculum also emphasizes learning strategies for language acquisition.

"We are training students to be successful learners ... that are aware of their own learning processes so that they can use strategies to deal with unknown material," said Martínez-Lage.

Martínez-Lage explained that the program teaches students "to deal with being exposed to a clip of authentic language and not feel intimidated or scared because they don't understand everything. There's constant training of the students in the use of metacognitive strategies."

For example, when watching a video clip, students are trained to develop hypotheses regarding the context of the situation in order to process the vocabulary that might be utilized.

As a company, MIL continues to expand its national presence.

MIL has offices in Middlebury, located in the Marble Works, in order to maintain a connection with the language schools. Offices in Provo, Utah conduct development for the online program while administrative offices in Chicago, Ill. handle marketing, recruitment and sales.

Geisler explained that MIL hopes to expand its products in the future.

"We're bringing out Spanish and French first, but we fully intend to go beyond that. We're looking at Chinese right now and a little bit down the road I hope that we will be looking at German, Italian and Japanese and then we'll take it from there," said Geisler.

Earlier this month, the College also announced an additional site for the Middlebury-Monterrey Language Academy (MMLA) 2011 summer programs. MMLA, another for-profit venture by the College, hosts high schools students on university campuses for language-intensive summer programs. The College has now added Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I. as an additional site, in addition to existing campuses in Vermont, Pennsylvania, Illinois, South Carolina and California. This will be the program's fourth year in existence.

Council debates 'Gender Council' proposal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

educate the student body on gender issues. The council would be comprised of students, faculty and staff and would make direct policy recommendations to Old Chapel, similar to the structure of the existing Environmental Council and Community Council.

"The Gender Council is necessary as a permanent institution in order to sustain long-term progress at the school in proactive, rather than reactive, ways," wrote Ray-Mazumder in an email. "In the past we've seen numerous ad-hoc committees produce important reports that lay out progressive policy change for the school, but these recommendations are rarely implemented. This is largely because there is no standing body to hold the institution accountable to these necessary changes."

"The GC is necessary as a permanent institution because the College will always be making policy decisions related to gender and sexuality," added Mulligan.

Community Council voted to table the motion to support the establishment of a Gender Council due to concerns over the specific mission of the group and how it would interact with other organizations and initiatives on campus.

"There's concern about what [a Gender Council] will ultimately mean for broader issues of diversity and inclusion on campus," said Dean of the College, Chief Diversity Officer and Co-Chair of Community Council Shirley Collado. "Gender is certainly an issue that needs attention on our campus, but we need to think carefully about the right structure for addressing multiple identities on this campus without assuming that broader efforts are diluting any particular need on campus."

"We understand our identities as existing in a matrix — we are not just gendered bodies, we are raced bodies, classed bodies, dis/abled bodies, etc.," said Ray-Mazumder. "The Gender Council cannot talk about gender in isolation from these other identities. Diversity is in the purview of the Council, but we are imaging diversity in a transformative way, and are using gender as a lens to express this."

Mulligan explained how a Gender Council is necessary due to the sensitivity that often surrounds the issue.

"Students also often find the policy proposal process to be inaccessible — particularly for issues related to gender, race, sexuality, etc. It can be particularly difficult for people of marginalized identities to trust and interact with authority figures. The Gender Council will show to students

that the school sees gendered policy as an important issue, and will give people with policy ideas a more direct, efficient and reliable avenue to policymakers," wrote Mulligan in an e-mail.

The proposal for a Gender Council is a result of collaboration among multiple organizations, students, faculty and staff on campus.

"While these organizations [such as MOQA, Women of Color and Feminist Action at Middlebury] are working really hard to change the culture of the campus ... they don't necessarily have the direct access to make the policy changes they want to make," commented Ray-Mazumder at the Nov. 29 meeting.

"The students have done an incredible job putting this proposal together and are pushing us to think about gender in a way that would benefit all members of the Middlebury community," said Collado.

The Gender Council would address the issues of bathrooms that are accessible to all genders, retention of faculty of color, support networks for students that face harassment while studying abroad, gender issues that arise within classroom curriculum and gender language in official College materials.

Community Council will re-convene to discuss the proposal in a meeting on Jan. 3.

green news

a column about environmental events, initiatives and projects on campus

by Maddie Kahn, Staff Writer

Have you ever counted how many napkins you grab in the dining hall at once? My friends and I tried a little social experiment this week, with interesting results.

I went up to the napkin basket and made a conscious effort to grab a single napkin. My fingers were simply not nimble enough; I came back with three. I was surprised, but gave up and headed back to my table to see how my friends did. Already at our table lay two different stacks of brown paper napkins; my friends each came back with a small stack of five or so to make our total count 31 napkins amongst three people — about 10 napkins a person. Even with food as messy as Philly Cheese Steak or Sloppy Joe's, one doesn't need 10 different napkins.

On a normal food day and with a conscious effort to conserve, I exercised the unfolding method and used a total of 1 napkin throughout my meal. My friends, who weren't nearly as deliberate in their napkin usage, still only needed a total of two napkins each. Thus, only about one-sixth of the napkins grabbed that meal were utilized; the rest were left on the table, only to remain there for the rest of lunch hour.

It's hard to think that at such an environmentally friendly school like Middlebury, we waste as much as we do. Though we may lead the path in sustainability for small colleges like ourselves, we still tend to overlook the smaller concerns. Napkin waste in the dining halls is just one of these underground plights. The baskets of napkins now in place simply encourage these wasteful tendencies; not only do they make it easy to pick up more napkins than needed per person, but they actually make it difficult to pick up a single napkin at a time. Middlebury, however, is not alone in this dilemma. During an average year, an American uses approximately 2,200 napkins — around six each day. If everyone in the U.S. used one less napkin a day, more than a billion pounds of napkins could be saved from landfills each year.

Jiayi Zhu '14 recognized this problem as soon as she stepped foot in a dining hall this fall. "There were napkins everywhere, on the table, on the floor, in chairs," she said. "I was surprised by how many napkins kids took at a time. But when it came to me, I found it's hard to just take one napkin because they kind of stick together."

As a member of the Student Government Association's Environmental Affairs Committee, Jiayi proposed her ideas about eliminating napkin waste in the dining halls. After much debate over the best method of implementing this initiative, the Committee has decided to work with Dining Services to obtain new napkin dispensers that only allow one napkin to be taken at a time.

"The company that provides the napkins has a great relationship with the College and is offering us dispensers free of charge as the napkins that we purchase from them are ideal for the dispensers," said Committee head Rachel Callender '12.5. "There is no additional cost, labor is reduced by fewer napkins being wasted and paper waste is also cut down."

Middlebury already has an extremely green dining system. A fourth of our food is local and we compost nearly 300 pounds of food each year. Each dining hall has low-flow faucets, energy-efficient lighting, and even a water-recycling device on the dishwashing machine. This napkin initiative will simply take our sustainable dining one step further. Though they have not been purchased yet, the Committee hopes to have the dispensers in place early next semester. Hopefully, these dispensers will work their sustainable magic and decrease the amount of napkins people waste. However, it's up to us as a student body to make an effort to take less and waste less. So, next time you're at the napkin basket, think before you take.

MADDIE KAHN '11 IS FROM ST. LOUIS, MO.



beyond the bubble

by Bronwyn Oatley,
Staff Columnist

Tension continues to rise on the Korean peninsula following a series of attacks by the North Korean military against their South Korean neighbors. Both strikes have been strongly condemned by the South Korean government, state leaders and the United Nations. Analysts claim that there are very few options for diplomatic maneuvers and that China must take a leadership role in halting the escalation of tension in the peninsula.

The first of the two North Korean military strikes occurred on Nov. 23. Two marines and two South Korean civilians were killed when the North attacked an island in the Yellow Sea. The second of the two attacks occurred three days later. North Korean officials again launched another round of artillery fire at the same island in South Korea. While this time no one was injured, the Associated Press noted that the second round of artillery fire was especially threatening as it came during a tour of the island by the U.S. Military Commander to South Korea, General Walter Sharp.

These actions have reverberated around the world. On the day of the second round of attacks, *Bloomberg* reported the decline of the value of gold: "Military and political tensions on the Korean peninsula drove the dollar to a two-month high, eroding demand for the metal."

Many major international players have called on the Chinese, North Korea's greatest trading partner, to sanction the nation, limiting its capacity to conduct such hostile actions in the future. The Chinese, however, have responded only by calling for six-party talks between the Chinese, Japanese, America, Russian and North and South Korean governments. While laudable, facilitating such talks has been seen by many as nothing more than a public relations move, designed to take the pressure both off of the North Korean and Chinese governments. *The NY Times* reported remarks by White House press secretary Robert Gibbs: "The United States and a host of others ... are not interested in stabilizing the region through a series of P.R. activities."

Gibbs also noted that the North Korean government would need to agree to both end such hostile behavior, and also "come to the table with a seriousness of purpose on the de-nuclearization issue" in order for the American government to resume negotiations.

The nuclearization of North Korea has been a main point of interest for diplomatic officials in recent months. While analysts remain confident that the military does not possess the capacity to build nuclear missiles, the authoritarian state has continued to take steps towards such an endeavor. Such actions are seen as a threat to the South Korean government and global stability at large. The UN Security Council (UNSC) has met in recent days to discuss the escalating tensions surrounding the rogue state. As of yet, however, the UNSC has not created a new plan for dealing with the state, but rather has "called for (the) tighter enforcement of sanctions against North Korea."

With so many differing factors, and such a wide range of interests present in this conflict, a simple resolution seems impossible. What seems evident is that in order to avoid a military engagement all parties must tread cautiously. As the North Korean government undergoes the regime change that leader Kim Jong Il has been planning it will be particularly unstable. An escalation of tension could result in disastrous global consequences. State leaders must tread cautiously, balancing their condemnation for the North Korean state with their levelheaded recognition of the fragility of the situation.

Library expands access to research materials

By Cedar Attanasio

STAFF WRITER

With the College's new membership this month in the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), students will have access to a plethora of research material comparable to top universities through the Inter Library Loan (ILL) program.

"We now have access to this enormous research library," said Library and Information Services (LIS) Director of Research and Collection Services Terry Simpkins.

CRL, a partnership of over 240 university, college and independent research libraries based in Chicago, specializes in "materials that are not usually held in libraries across the country," Simpkins said.

According to the CRL website, these materials include 800,000 doctoral theses and 16,000 newspaper titles, many of which are from outside the U.S. CRL also houses a collection of over 30,000 academic journals in foreign languages.

"This stuff is for serious research," said Simpkins. "Primary sources, a lot of primary sources."

LIS announced the College's membership in the partnership on its blog on Nov. 12, expressing confidence that the materials made available will prove a "valuable resource" for students and faculty alike.

Jia Liu '11, who works at the circulation desk at the Davis Family Library, had not yet heard of CRL but expressed enthusiasm for what it will offer. Bente Madison '11, who had trouble finding sources for her architecture thesis, also expressed excitement about the announcement.

Accessing CRL resources does not involve any new steps. Library patrons simply follow the normal steps for filling out an ILL request. CRL will be one of the first choice libraries for ILL requests because it has a number of advantages.

"They have longer loan periods," said Simpkins. "And if you want 300 rolls of micro film, they will let you borrow 300 rolls of microfilm. It's pretty amazing."

The membership will cost the library about \$20,000 over the next three years, in part thanks

Need something that is not physically in the library?

- **NExpress:** a group of schools in New England: use this loan program for books that come quickly and are easily renewable.
- **CRL:** long, renewable borrowing periods. Vast collection of hard to find items.
- **ILL:** libraries around the country. Limited borrowing periods and renewal is sometimes not available. Wide selection.
- **Request for purchase:** if there is something you want the library to buy, fill out the form at go/purchase request. About 9 out of 10 requests are approved.

to a 'three for two' year introductory discount. A portion of the initial three-year contract was subsidized by a grant from Dean of the Faculty Jim Ralph. After three years, the library will review the membership and evaluate its cost-effectiveness based on usage statistics.

However, Simpkins indicated that this new investment in resources does not signal the end of LIS's recession-era budget. Even before adjusting for inflation, the budget is lower than it was five years ago. In addition to the cutbacks in library hours and the introduction of a fee-based printing system for students last year, Simpkins said that LIS continues to look for ways to save money.

"We buy fewer books," he said. "We discontinue journals that don't get used. Right now we're considering an e-book model, which functions similar to the way you access journal articles."

The idea, said Simpkins, is to "have access to

a bunch of things that we don't own" and then be able to purchase an item only when someone at the library uses it.

Yet despite budget constraints, LIS was encouraged over the past year by members of the faculty to expand access to rare research materials.

"We have to support senior theses and other high-level research that the students are doing," said Simpkins. "And the faculty here, they have a very high pedigree in terms of their academic background. They come from top-notch [institutions] with huge research libraries. And they come to Middlebury and we can't support them in the same way that Stanford or the University of Illinois or Harvard can."

This certainly is the experience for many faculty members.

"[I was] used to a huge R-1 university that had every single book that I needed," said Visiting Instructor of Spanish Giannina Reyes Giardiello, who recently left the University of Wisconsin-Madison to teach at the College. Reyes Giardiello is writing her dissertation on representations of masculinity in Mexico in the revolutionary period and in the nineties. For her research, she relies on "history and movies and also documentaries and advertisements from the 19th century," precisely the types of materials that are available through the CRL.

"The College library is very small," she said. "But the first thing I found out about was NExpress and that was very useful. But then they told me about [CRL] and it's awesome because all of the things that I was used to having in Madison ... now I have them here."

As with the previous ILL system, resources from CRL can take up to a week to be processed, packed and received by the College. Still, teachers like Reyes Giardiello want students to take advantage of the service.

"Now that I'm teaching Spanish 300 next semester, I'm planning to take my students to one of the [intro CRL] workshops [offered by LIS]," Reyes Giardiello said. "It is amazing that a college this size ... has the resources that it has."

Early application numbers stay high

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Class of 2014 have a high percentage of students admitted through ED.

"We admitted about 45 percent of the class ED the last two years because the quality [of the students] was there [in the ED applicant pools]," said Clagett.

One concern that prospective applicants may have with the ED option is the question of financial aid. Students may wonder whether the amount of financial aid they receive would be different if they applied Regular Decision. While the ED option does prevent an applicant from comparing multiple financial aid packages from different institutions, Clagett emphasized that the amount of financial aid a student receives is completely non-contingent on when the applicant applies.

"The admissions and student financial services offices apply the same criteria for both ED and Regular Decision candidates when they are making admissions and financial aid decisions," said Clagett.

Students admitted through ED also retain the option to take a gap year after they graduate from high school.

"[We are] encouraging the possibility of students considering taking a gap year," said Clagett. "We [the Admissions Office] believe strongly that students who take a gap year can benefit greatly from doing so. Anything to get students to focus on what their education is really about."

The admissions office spends the month following the Nov. 15 deadline reading and thoroughly evaluating the applications. The evaluation process is thorough and individualized.

"We [the admissions office] are in the middle of reading at this point," said Clagett. "This is crunch time."

The admissions office will go into committee after they have finished their initial readings of each application to discuss each applicant as a group.

ED I decisions will be mailed out on Dec. 10; however, there is also an electronic release, so most students will be able to access their decisions on the morning of Dec. 12.

After the Office of Admissions releases their ED I decisions, they will repeat the process again for the ED II and Regular Decision applicants. For both applicant pools, the College's own supplement is due on Dec. 15 and the Common Application is due on Dec. 31. ED II applicants will be notified Feb. 12 and Regular Decision applicants will be notified on Mar. 26.

public safety log

November 19 - November 29, 2010

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
11/19/10	9:48 p.m.	Drug violation	Paraphernalia	Atwater A	Referred to Commons Dean
11/19/10	9:13 p.m.	Drug violation	Paraphernalia	Le Chateau	Case closed
11/20/10	12:04 a.m.	Unlawful trespass	Students in library after hours	Davis Family Library	Case closed
11/20/10	2:35 a.m.	Vandalism	Emergency lights	Pearsons	Case closed
11/20/10	1:23 a.m.	Vandalism	Knocked over sand buckets	Pearsons	No suspects
11/21/10	6:36 p.m.	Vandalism	Light pole	Sidewalk	Open
11/21/10	4:07 a.m.	Vandalism	Light cover	Gifford	No suspects
11/21/10	1:00 a.m.	Theft	Leather jacket, wallet with contents	Atwater B	Referred to Commons Dean
11/21/10	12:47 a.m.	Drug violation	Paraphernalia	Allen	Case closed
11/24/10	11:20 a.m.	Collision	Hit and run	Hillcrest Rd.	Case closed
11/28/10	1:48 p.m.	Fire alarm	Unattended cookies	82 Adirondack	Case closed

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 5 alcohol citations between November 19 and November 29, 2010.

2 December 2010

local

The Middlebury Campus

5

CRAFT FAIR
SUPPORTS FAIR WAGESJOANNA LYONS
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

The Middlebury Memorial Baptist Church held its 19th annual craft fair to benefit Ten Thousand Villages, a nonprofit that ensures producers from developing nations all over the world receive fair wages and access to large markets.



Joanna Lyons

Picture frames, notebooks, candlesticks and musical instruments from all over the world were just some of the many crafts sold at the 19th annual fair, held in the church's basement.

From jewelry from Kenya's Spice Coast to beaded works from India, handmade goods from all over the world made an appearance at the 19th annual craft fair, held at the Middlebury Memorial Baptist Church on Friday, Nov. 19 and Saturday, Nov. 20. All proceeds from the sales benefit Ten Thousand Villages, a nonprofit organization and one of the founding members of the World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO). Founded in 1946, Ten Thousand Villages provides a North American market and fair wages to artisans from all over the world. Sales generated pay for food, education, housing and healthcare needs of the producers. For lucky customers in Middlebury, however, the craft fair is a chance to find unique items and support a meaningful cause, as well. Because it is always held the weekend before Thanksgiving, many also get a head start on holiday shopping.

Jen Nuceder, accreditation support coordinator in the Office on Institutional Research at the College, saw the fair as the perfect opportunity to "find some interesting, different gift ideas." A resident of Salisbury, Vt., Nuceder was particularly intrigued by the handcrafted musical instruments she bought for her children, who participate in a playgroup at the church.

"It is great to be able to have these kinds of opportunities to see crafts from all over the world in our little town," said Nuceder, who noted that not many other rural areas get as much international influence as Middlebury.

Others craft fair-goers were not only excited that their contributions would benefit people from around the world, but they were also impressed by the quality of the goods.

"What's most important to me is how it seems like things are made by hand and so the object has a little more soul to it than things that are mass-produced," said Ripton, Vt. resident Sarah Wesson, who has attended the craft fair in previous years as well.

Wesson also said that many of the items are made from

recycled materials. According to the organization's website (<http://www.tenthousandvillages.com>), Ten Thousand Villages "encourages artisan partners to use environmentally friendly processes, sustainable natural resources and recycled materials to ensure each product offered has been crafted responsibly."

The fair organization is fairly simple. Because the church has been holding the sale for nearly two decades, Ten Thousand Villages has the group in its database. Eight weeks before the sale, the organization contacts the church and sends a variety of goods it wishes to sell. Other nonprofits interested in holding a festival sale for the first time contact Ten Thousand Villages to request goods. The church doesn't pick what items it receives, according to Kathy Jewett, associate in science instruction in chemistry/biochemistry at the College and coordinator of the craft fair for the past 18 years. Goods usually encompass a broad range and include jewelry, musical instruments, woven baskets and decorative home items like candle holders. This year, there were finger puppets, birdhouses, carved wooden boxes and wire children's toys, as well.

Though the church does not set a sales goal for the fair, Jewett said that to ensure money gets back to the artisans, the church aims to sell 60 percent of the goods it receives. All items left over are returned back to Ten Thousand Villages. Because of the nature of the organization's business, shipping is a large cost.

"We try to do the best job we can to publicize and get out to the broadest audience, and then the rest just happens," said Jewett, who promoted the event by contacting local churches and advertising in *The Addison Independent*. Jewett also noted that Ten Thousand Villages has gotten better at advertising, due to their website improvements.

The fair has been held at many different locations over the years, including Weybridge Elementary School, the

Middlebury Inn and the College itself. It is now in the church's basement, as it is a bigger space and is handicapped-accessible. Though the fair was previously held on Saturday only, three years ago organizers introduced a Friday night sale as well, as many customers wanted extended hours.

Volunteers include church members and even college students.

"Many of our youth grew up around [the fair]," said Laura Sturtevant, a church member who has been volunteering at the event nearly every year since it began. One of Sturtevant's daughters was also volunteering, as was Sarah King '12.

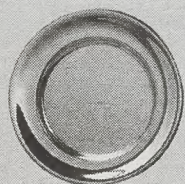
For the past three years, King, who is from Texas, has volunteered at the Ten Thousand Villages store in Houston. In addition to setting up festival sales with nonprofit groups (like the church), Ten Thousand Villages also has retail locations across the country. King said that many of these stores have one or two steady managers, but that a strong volunteer network makes up most of the staff. The store in Houston, for example, has approximately 80 volunteers who work a certain number of hours each month.

"It's a nice way to involve shoppers," said King.

For the church, which does not profit off of the event, the fair is simply another way it can help people across the globe.

"The church has a very strong global vision," said Sturtevant, who commented that volunteers have also worked in Haiti, Romania and inner cities across the U.S. She said that the fair allowed for many church members who can't travel to contribute to the church's global mission. As another project, members also volunteer at the annual Crop Walk. Sturtevant said that these local outreaches are easy to do and can have a large, positive effect on others.

"For the impact we have, it is a very doable commitment," said Sturtevant.

**Danforth Pewter**

The owners of a unique Middlebury business pride themselves on offering a range of products, page 6.

Fashion Show supports HOPE

The Town Hall Theater holds a unique fashion show that featured community members as models, page 7.



The Pragmatist



by Hillary Chutter-Ames

Budget crunches and achievement gaps feature prominently in news around the country. School boards and communities across Vermont continue to explore ways to decrease the costs of education, but will these new efficiencies provide better education? As state and local budgets come under increasing scrutiny, school boards and communities across the state are faced with difficult choices, as they seek to provide the best education for their students.

Several Vermont towns have begun to examine new education models. The plans entail closing public schools and opening up independent ones, allowing for more flexibility with government mandates.

Winhall, a small town in southern Vermont, pursued this option and opened an independent school, the Mountain School, 12 years ago. The town voted to close Winhall Elementary and open the Mountain School on an independent academy model, like the town's high school, St. Johnsbury Academy. Such independent schools guarantee admission to town residents, but are not subject to the same constraints as traditional public schools, which must abide by federal mandates, such as No Child Left Behind. The Mountain School has a five to one student to teacher ratio and an average class size of 10, statistics few, if any, public schools in Vermont can boast. These benefits are accompanied by a decrease in per-pupil cost by several thousand dollars.

Independent schools can fundraise and can choose how they will spend their money, allowing flexibility. State rules about equalization prevent public schools from exercising the same liberties. In fact, Vermont has penalized Addison County for high per-pupil costs. Towns and counties are weighing the relative advantages of consolidation and privatization, in addition to other options, as they seek to reduce costs.

For 200 years, Vermont law has allowed towns without schools to tuition their students out to private schools. My hometown, South Hero, Vt. has an elementary and a middle school, but no high school. The town tuitions students out to nearby high schools, either in Vermont or New York. It also pays tuition to area public high schools, or will contribute the same amount towards tuition at a private high school or academy. Voters in my town and in the rest of the county have overturned measures to build a high school because of the superior services students receive for the tuition price the town pays. That tuition has become increasingly expensive, however, sparking continued debates about the present model.

Although I see this independent school model as an innovative way for education to be locally responsible, I also have concerns. Special education costs in Vermont now make up large portions of education budgets in some towns because of unfunded mandates of legislation like No Child Left Behind. Independent schools therefore may have the flexibility to allocate limited funds more equitably. However, the mandates for special education funding are important guarantors of access to equal education for those with learning and other disabilities. Localizing education to this extent allows for flexibility, but federal education mandates and standards do have value, too.

Vermont's efforts to deal with tightening education budgets pose important questions for future educators and parents. Is privatization or consolidation the key to less expensive education? As towns continue to explore these and other options, we as voters must ask ourselves whether these changes will also bring about better and more effective education.

Hillary Chutter-Ames '13 is from South Hero, Vt.

Danforth Pewter offers rare products

By Devin MacDonald
STAFF WRITER

On the right side of Seymour St., just beyond the center of town, sits Danforth Pewter Company. Danforth displays items ranging from buttons to oil lamps, all made of pewter. With a family heritage connected to pewter dating back to 1755, the company creates every item by hand with care.

Behind the company's success are its owners, Fred Danforth and Judi Whipple, who met and fell in love in Middlebury, Vt. years ago. Fred was a student at the College, and Judi had just finished her studies at Rochester Institute of Technology, where she first developed her interest in pewter. Despite the fact that his family had been well known in Connecticut for being some of the best pewter-smiths, Fred had no interest in or knowledge of pewter. In fact, he wanted to be a cabinet-maker. Whipple, however, shared her passion for pewter with Fred, and soon Danforth Pewter Company was born. The pair began designing their first wares in Woodstock, Vt. in 1975. In 1978, they moved to Lincoln, Vt. and they finally settled in Middlebury in 1988, where they have remained ever since. The Danforths currently own four stores in Vermont and one in Colonial Williamsburg, Va.

The site in Seymour Street is not simply a store; in the back there are windows that give visitors a view directly into the workshop. Customers are encouraged to observe the pieces being made by employees with their hands and a lathe. There is a display showing the family history of pewter making as well as an informational video that helps customers understand the complicated process.

"We get to tell our story," said Judi. "So often things are inexpensive and impersonal, and it's nice to make a connection."

It is also important to the Danforths that their customers understand the pewter process itself. Pewter is an alloy made of tin, copper and antimony. A common misconception



Devin MacDonald

Danforth Pewter, located on Seymour Street, is owned by the Danforths, who met in Middlebury. They run a workshop inside their store.

tion is that pewter contains lead, but in fact there is no lead in the product, making pewter safe. Although Danforth started out with only pewter, color was introduced in 1998 using epoxy resins applied by hand. A syringe-like object lets the shades leak into the crevices of the pewter.

"I was starving for color," said Judi.

Danforth Pewter creates items for all ages. The available items include ornaments, key chains, necklaces, picture frames, money clips, letter openers and plates. The Danforths have taken full advantage of pewter's versatility, and continue to create as many pieces as possible. Becoming a talented pewter-smith, however, is not an easy task. The Danforths themselves train every person they hire.

"We invest in every employee and now have some wonderfully skilled artisans," said

Judi. They usually employ about 50 people at a time, all working together on handmade pewter pieces.

Some Danforth Pewter products are available at the College bookstore, but nothing close to the range of products in the store itself. Taylor Wilkins '11 owns several Danforth pieces.

"Products from Danforth aren't flashy, unnecessarily expensive or chintzy at all," said Wilkins. "They are elegant and stand up to years of use."

Danforth is a local company, providing beautiful goods to its loyal and dedicated customers.

"We build to last and stand behind everything we make," said Judi.

two in 8,700

where the personalities of middlebury proper are celebrated

By Devin MacDonald
STAFF WRITER

Down the hill from campus in the main section of town sits The Ski Haus. The store, formerly known as the Alpine Shop, was recently purchased by Anne Boisvert and Barbara Nelson and provides Middlebury residents with all the winter gear they could ask for along with the classic good service of a local Middlebury store.

Last February the owners of the Alpine Shop sold the store to Boisvert and Nelson. The two women purchased "the inventory, not the name" and consequently decided to change it, said Boisvert.

"We decided to go back to the original name," said Boisvert. "The Ski Haus was such an iconic Middlebury business for many

years."

According to Boisvert, since the change of name, the primary addition the new owners have made to the store are "a couple of very comfortable leather chairs for the husbands or others who may not be that interested in shopping as their companions are."

However, both Nelson and Boisvert aim to retain the store's previous environment for the most part.

"We have a really amazing historic space," said Boisvert. "One of our goals was to make it feel homey here."

The new owners do their best to cater to every customer. In their first season they have stuck with a lot of the traditional brands, such as Patagonia, but plan to expand the variety of items they offer. Like other Middlebury stores,

The Ski Haus has a wide range of customers, including local residents, an older clientele and Midd Kids who need a convenient place to buy gear and warm clothes for the winter. Nelson and Boisvert each have personal connections with the store, as both worked for the original Ski Haus as well as the Alpine Shop. Their previous bonds have helped them to maintain the good parts of the store while also improving the Ski Haus to make it more what they think the people of Middlebury want and need. By making the store locally owned once again (the previous owners were from Burlington) Boisvert believes they have captured the spirit of the town.

"We've always been special here because we have such a great local community," said Boisvert.

In keeping up with the times, the Ski Haus has a page on Facebook. In addition, the store offers anything that their customers find online. Instead of ordering straight from a website, the customer can ask the Ski Haus to order each item and go down to the store and pick it up there.

"We want to have something here for everyone," said Boisvert.

Currently, the Ski Haus is running a food drive through Christmas. All those who bring nonperishable food items automatically get entered into a raffle to win a turkey.

As the Ski Haus gears up to help Middlebury have a great winter season this year, it is clear that the shop aims to provide a sense of community as well. Personal service, the products you want and helping the local economy is just what the Ski Haus hopes to offer.

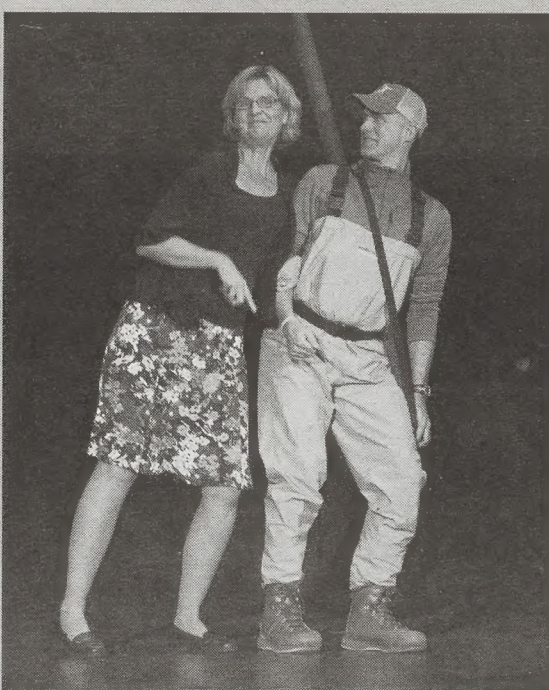
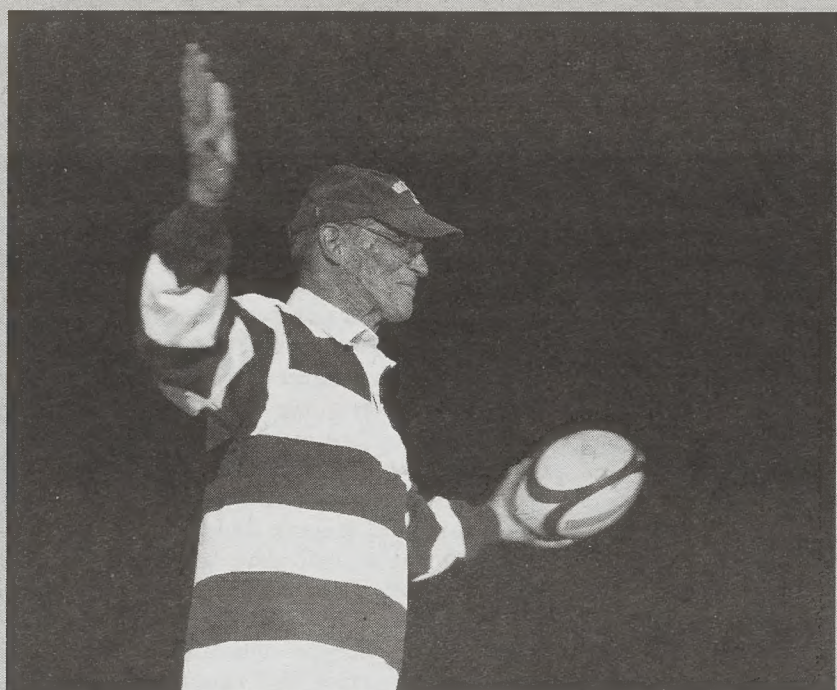
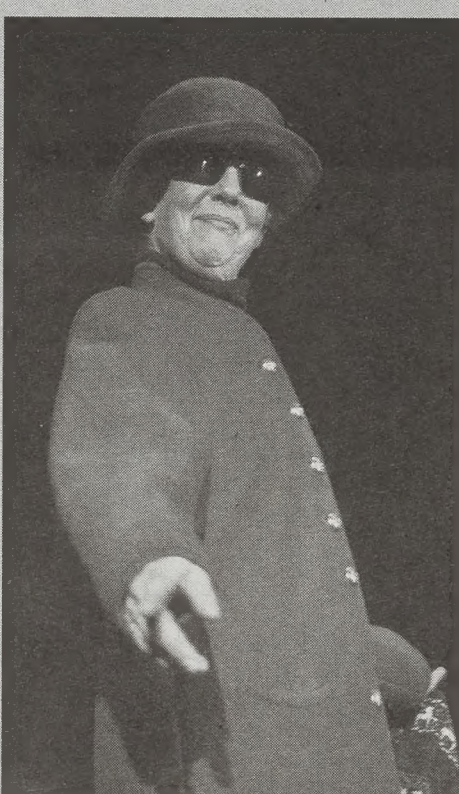
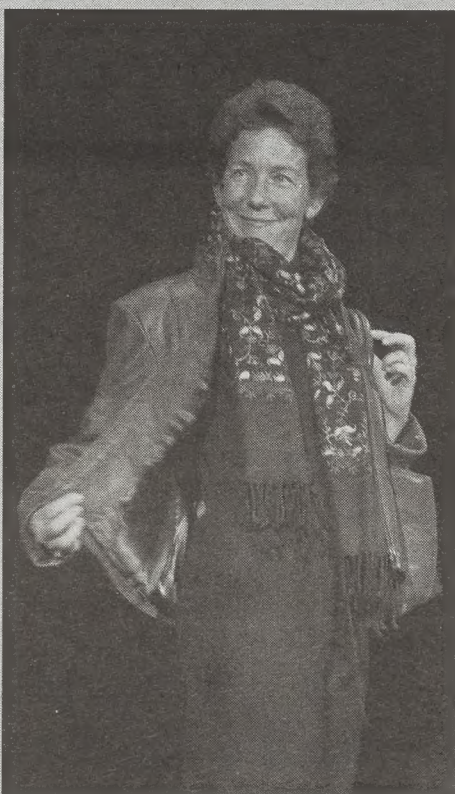
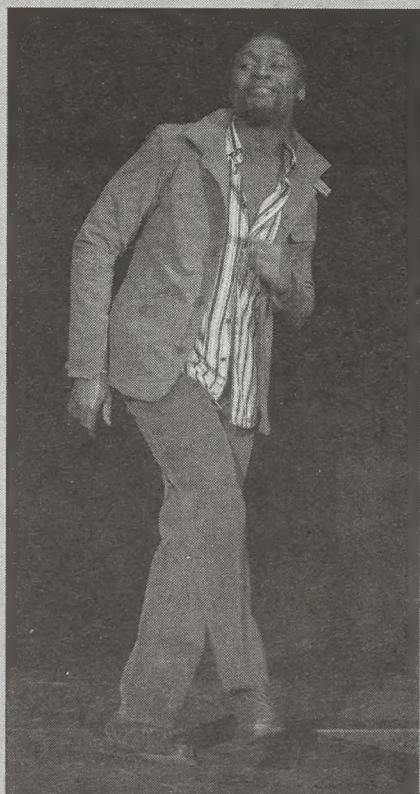
"It's always good to encourage people to understand that when they put their dollars into the local community, it benefits everyone," said Boisvert.



Devin MacDonald

Ski Haus owners Anne Boisvert and Barbara Nelson both worked at The Alpine Shop, the business' previous name.

First annual fashion show benefits HOPE



Nadia Abosseine

Charlotte Gardiner Local News Editor

On Saturday, Nov. 20th, crowds gathered at the Middlebury Town Hall Theater for the first annual HOPE "Model Citizen" Fashion Show. The event, which partnered local businesses with community members, raised approximately \$3,000 for HOPE, which stands for Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects. Tickets were \$25 each, and all attendees were offered hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar before the models strutted down the runway. Andrea Solomon, chair of the fundraising committee for HOPE, organized the event, along with Rise Wilson, associate vice president for development in college advancement, Carey Wilson, designer for the communications department and Sue Byers '55, and said it was an "absolute success." The fashion show was modeled after the Boys and Girls Club's similar fundraiser in Burlington, Vt..

"It [the fashion show] helped promote local businesses, too, with virtually no cost to them besides taking products out of circulation for a few days," said Solomon.

Fifteen local businesses, including Fourth n' Goal, Edgewater Gallery, Wild Mountain Thyme and Middlebury Mountaineer, donated clothing, jewelry and accessories for the show. Several stores also contributed gift cards to the raffle. Solomon said there were 30 models who walked the runway, including three little children, a pregnant mother and a handful of others ranging from 14 to 65 years old.

Each model walked to a different song that fit the style of the clothing they wore. Solomon thought the choice of "Stayin' Alive" by the Bee Gees, for example, was the perfect tune for the Ski Haus' clothing because the store keeps closing and then re-opening.

"It was a fun and fantastic event and so many people were willing to donate their time to help," she said. "The audience was hamming the show up, too. It was the best case scenario for a fundraiser and I felt a strong town response."

local lowdown

Author appearance

Dec. 2, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Take a break from your studies to listen to Jared Duval, who will speak at the Ilsley Library tonight. Head down to the library, located on Main St. in Middlebury, to hear what the author of *Next Generation Democracy: What the Open Source Revolution Means for Power, Politics and Change*, has to say. For more information, call (802) 388-4095.

Holiday extravaganza in Vergennes

Dec. 4, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

The town of Vergennes boasts an incredible array of activities that are sure to get you excited for the holiday season. From the Bixby Library to Vergennes Elementary School to the Vergennes Opera House, festive events are everywhere! Make the trip to enjoy a delicious breakfast and to participate in a food drive, silent auction and cookie decorating. There will also be performances by the Champlain Brass Quintet, Dickens carolers and the Addison County Gospel Choir. For more information, be sure to call (802) 388-7951.

Folk music in Ripton

Dec 4, 7:30 p.m.

Enjoy a different kind of Saturday night at the Ripton Community Coffeehouse. The Parkington Sisters will perform a number of folk songs on Saturday night. Before the band goes on, however, audience members can show off their talents at an open mic set (be sure to call ahead to reserve a spot). Proceeds from refreshments sold will benefit the Helen Porter Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center. Tickets are \$8, \$5 for seniors and \$3 for children. Call (802) 388-9782 for more information.

Cornwall Christmas concert

Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

The countdown to Christmas has begun! Join others at the First Congregational Church of Cornwall for a free Christmas concert. The Weybridge Church Choir, the Cornwall Church Choir and the Weybridge Parish Bells will sing an assortment of carols and holiday jingles that are sure to put all in festive spirits.

Tai chi

Dec. 7, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Madeline Piat-Landholt has organized a "Tai Chi for Health" class at the Lincoln Library. Come clear your head and relax as she guides the group through a series of meditative poses. Call (802) 453-2665 for more information. The class is free; however, a \$10 donation would be much appreciated.

Holiday sing-along

Dec. 8, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

It's the most wonderful time of the year... to join a group of local musicians at the Lincoln Library! Take a break from studying and the stress of finals and sing along to your favorite holiday tunes. Refreshments will be served, and all are welcome to attend this free event. Call (802) 453-2665 with any additional questions.

The Middlebury Campus

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Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

This past week, Middlebury joined Williams and Bowdoin as the third NESCAC institution to enact gender-neutral housing legislation. Starting in Fall 2011, any sophomore, junior or senior will be allowed to live with whomever they choose, regardless of either party's gender. While College policy already allowed suites and bathrooms to be mixed-gendered, the recently approved proposal expands the policy to include doubles and connected singles. The proposal received unanimous support from the SGA and was approved at the Nov. 22 Community Council meeting, also by a unanimous vote.

While some students might cite the potential conflict that could arise between members of the opposite sex sharing the same living space, and parents might be uneasy about the prospect of their child being forced to live with a student of a different gender, it is important to remember that only students who specifically request a mixed-gendered room will be placed in one. This is an important step toward breaking down the heteronormative attitudes that exist under the surface of our institution and society at large, and achieves the more direct goal of providing a comfortable living situation for every member of our community.

Besides the gender-neutral housing proposal, Community Council also heard, and tabled, a proposal to form an official Gender Council, which would address all issues of gender on campus, report directly to the Presidential Council and have policy-making power. While we are pleased to see that gender issues, often the most pervasive, subtle and overlooked, are receiving the attention that they clearly deserve, we question whether the addition of more red tape is the appropriate way to bring these issues to light at Middlebury.

Giving any committee policy-making power should be a carefully considered and meaningful decision — in this case, we are not sure that the goals of the would-be Gender Council necessitate an autonomous council. After all, the issue of gender-neutral housing was addressed fully and efficiently by the Community Council — it was only last spring that this proposal began taking shape. While subtle instances of sexism can often be the most harmful, they are also uniquely resistant to sweeping policy changes. Thus, we question whether a policy-making committee is the best solution to the problem of sexism at Middlebury.

Closely examining gender dynamics at Middlebury is fascinating, at times horrifying and almost universally undervalued as a legitimate source of frustration and outrage from all sexes. Such examination is also performed far too infrequently, and often takes a backseat to issues of racial diversity and discrimination. We are excited that gender-neutral housing has been approved, and by no means are we attempting to keep gender issues on the back burner by suggesting that a Gender Council would be excessive. Rather, we would simply like to see the cause of gender equality taken up more fully in the actions of already existing councils and committees, such as the Sexual Assault Oversight Committee, or the Institutional Diversity Committee. We feel that the goal of gender equality would be better served by a universal increase in watchfulness and consciousness of the issue, rather than by a single policy-making committee.

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Op-Ed: Ramune Pansa

First impressions of Middlebury from an international graduate student

Answer me one question: What are the first six things that come to your mind when you think about Middlebury?

The first things that I see of Vermont are a lake, lights of a town and clouds. That is all I can see at 6 p.m. out of a small plane, while Canadians, who are returning from a golf weekend close to Phoenix, surround me. They are trying to show me their best German and because I am sometimes polite, I give them a big smile, even though I don't understand any of their "German"...

This is my first time in Vermont, where I am going to visit someone and to talk to a few professors. I am coming directly from Germany with a connecting flight at Washington Dulles, about which I could write pages — never change flights there.

It is Sunday morning at 5:30 a.m. I am waking up in a dorm, which is not normal for German universities. I need a bathroom, and half asleep I am trying to be quiet, to not wake anybody up, searching for my shoes. I am thinking, "God, why I am awake so early?" I know why — Middlebury kind of called me up. I am watching mountains, the hoarfrost, a few clouds and the sunrise through the bathroom window — that is why I came here, to see this great landscape. It was a moment of silence, peace and a German girl in a tiny Middlebury bathroom.

I don't need to ask why people go to Middlebury — I also studied at a place like Middlebury but the systems are totally different. During my stay I got so many impressions of what it is to be a student in Middlebury, how the professors are teaching, what is challenging, how the cafeterias are, what it is to party and to join cultural events. Here so much stuff is going on that I asked

myself, when do people have time to reflect, to think about what matters in life? Do they actually think about that or do they not think about that at all? I have talked to some Middlebury students about that.

They are freaking out, because of exams. Everybody is complaining that they have to prepare so much stuff. Of course a student's life is full of new academic tasks, but what else? Are you prepared for what is coming after? This whole community thing is kind of great and fantastic, because you eat together, you have classes, study in the library, but when do you actually have time to be yourself, alone, feeling the silence? When do you get the moment of just being yourself, to reflect and to think the most important thing is not just to want that everything is "superfantasticamazingunbelievablegreat"? I talked with some Middlebury students and I want to say take your time. You don't always have to have the most brilliant parties every weekend — take a timeout for five minutes from your studies just to look at a mountain out of a bathroom window.

The first six things that come in my mind when I think of Middlebury are: an inspiring community, full of activities, great study conditions, beautiful landscape, in the middle of nowhere and stress.

But what would a student's life be without any stress? It's just that too much shouldn't be the normal condition. And that is what I think you can learn, at least try to learn, from your life from Middlebury. Middlebury students can find a balance between work and these little moments of silence. Take this challenge!

RAMUNE PANSA IS FROM KASSEL, GERMANY

Op-Ed: Danil Rudoy

On douchebaggery and the like

The problem of douchebaggery at Middlebury College, a proud educational institution with a long history full of copious resonant episodes, is something that, despite its obvious relevance, has not yet been addressed on the pages of this periodical. Your humble servant would not undertake the hard and ultimately pointless task of bringing this issue up either, but the events that took place this semester make it impossible for him to be silent any longer. Of course, idealistic as he is, he does not expect that every schlub going to our college suddenly becomes enlightened with some cosmic shine, reevaluates his life and begins his next day with the first step toward becoming a worthy person. But shouldn't the freedom of speech that is said to thrive in this country be taken advantage of at least once in four years?

So, douchebaggery. You all know what it means, right? I am talking about a behavioral pattern, passed genetically from one generation of uncultivated brats to another, that makes the one locked in it commit deeds you deem rude, offensive and inconsiderate. It often involves undesired penetration of your private space, which occurs, for instance, when a tipsy freshman bumps into you on the stairs, making you spill the water you are holding all over your coat, looks at you in the way he would look at the janitor cleaning his dad's office and walks away silently; or when a hungover sophomore who must have poured the last load of his brains into the toilet (which he did not flush) this very morning, snatches the chair from your table, totally disregarding the fact that there is another plate in front of you that belongs to your lunch companion who had the audacity to use this chair for their own purposes before leaving for a moment to get another cup of invigorating cafeteria coffee.

I am sure I do not have to continue with examples: each one of you has a whole bunch of your own, be it what you suffered yourselves or inflicted upon others. What worries me, though, is that in the last three months

I witnessed more such episodes than in the entire preceding three years. Am I being so incredibly unlucky this fall, or did the infamous economic crisis of 2008 hit our cozy community harder than our leaders like to acknowledge? We have already accepted the drastic and irreversible decline of the quality of the dining hall food; we have already taught ourselves that the phrase "comprehensive fee" does not include having phones in our rooms; we have already learned how to get all our finals done in one week, but is it still not enough to compensate for the fireworks of the Winter Carnival?

Of course, I have no idea what guidelines were given to the admissions office in the last couple of years, but it seems that the change from being "need blind" to "need aware" meant more to our community than it should have. "If we must have more un-scholarshipped kids at this place to keep it going, we'll do it, then," some of us cried enthusiastically two years ago. Well, there is certainly some sense to that. It is true that a rich heir, sufficiently buttered up with the pleasures of the Winter Term, will be willing to donate to their alma mater some of his money to decrease the amount of taxes and to have his name engraved in stone somewhere other than in his bedroom. But, dear administration, don't you want our highly selective Middlebury to finally have a truly notable alumnus, someone whose name would be known all around the world, and not for the heroic increase on the initial investment, but for a scientific breakthrough or a genius work of art? If so, you know what to do. If no... well, I can be but glad that my time here is almost through, because if the things keep going this way, the Middlebury College will be sucked into the bog of impermeable mediocrity very, very fast.

Let this prophecy never come true, and let us all be as worthy of the name "human" as we must be. Amen.

DANIL RUDOY '11 IS FROM MOSCOW, RUSSIA

campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of The Middlebury Campus provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, The Campus reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. The Campus will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Campus reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The Awkward BJ: Ben Johnston Emoticons ftw :)

Happy almost holidays! I hope everyone had a lovely Thanksgiving, and that everyone woke up from food comas in time to flex their consumer muscles on Black Friday. C'mon people, this is what our economy needs! In the immortal words of that epic YouTube video, "Let's get some shoes." More importantly, though, regardless of your holiday traditions, it's a time to spend with family. So if you are going to be chilling with the parental units for almost a month, have fun and/or good luck with that.

All this family time means that, for the most part, all our sweet Midd friends are going to be miles and miles away. But never fear! With all our iPhones, Gchats and F-books, there's no reason to break the 24/7 connection we usually have with our fellow Middkids. As long as you spend more time (on average) with your family than staring into your Droid, it's totally cool to keep in touch with people over the holidays. However, I'd advise doing so with a hint of caution. All our high-tech communication aids have a tendency to greatly complicate the verbal interactions that they attempt to make obsolete, and it can get pretty awkward — not in a good way.

One issue is availability. With so many ways to be in contact with other people, it's usually a safe assumption that someone receives whatever message is sent to them. This becomes a problem when a message warrants a response, yet the response doesn't come. Every day a friend doesn't respond to the cool link you left on their wall, the chance that they haven't seen it yet decreases exponentially, especially if they are the average Facebook fiend. Smartphone users are notorious for having exclusive (and sometimes romantic) relationships with their device, and this constant attention shrinks the "reasonable response" window from days to minutes. Eventually, the only possible conclusion someone can reach from an unanswered message is that they are

being shamelessly ignored.

Problems can also arise from all this non-verbal conversation because it's, well, nonverbal. A lot of what we communicate verbally is in the form of tone of voice and body language, and all of this goes down the drain with text-based communication. Luckily, this problem is solved with the advent of smileys, which are the perfect way to condense complex emotions into silly faces wearing sunglasses. NOT.

Sarcasm doesn't work in text, with some exceptions, and smileys' measly range of expression doesn't help. Some people have decided it's okay to attempt a sarcastic text if they add a "p" at the end. I guess this sort of clarifies the sarcasm bit, but now I have to picture them making that horrific face, which should be reserved exclusively for annoying children in anime movies.

Misinterpretations of sarcasm usually result in a bit of silly awkwardness, but serious problems can arise when a more involved message depends on tone and body language. It's very easy for an "I don't really like it when you ..." to turn into "I HATE EVERYTHING

ABOUT YOU" when the receiver makes up their own tone and body language that go along with a message. So how do we avoid technology-aided social disasters? If you are emotionally invested in something, say it in person. At least over the phone, so that any potential misinterpretations can be nipped in the bud. And with the availability issue, give people the benefit of the doubt. Maybe they haven't seen the message, or have actually been too busy to respond. In a worst-case scenario, they saw the message, didn't feel like responding, and probably don't hate you. Don't overthink. Instead, just chill out, eat some meatloaf and keep your friends updated on your parents' champagne-induced discussions of their sex lives.

BEN JOHNSTON '11 IS FROM
BEDFORD, MASS.

As long as you spend more time (on average) with your family than staring at your Droid, it's totally cool to keep in touch with people over the holidays.

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"You can't wear flip-flops in that world. I just have a thing about shoes. I hate the fashion of politics."

— Rhiya Trivedi '12.5 on style in the world of politics.

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You mean I can submit an op-ed on anything?

E-mail campus@middlebury.edu with your opinions. You have them, we print them.

Apply Liberally: Zach Dallmeyer-Drennen Sarah Palin and how to ruin a family get-together

Discussing politics is one of the easiest ways to ruin any family gathering. In my past I have managed to spoil visits from several of my relatives. One time involved my lobbyist uncle and his "artist" wife — who, depending on the incident, either would not stop complaining about how they could barely afford to keep both their maid and their grown children employed due their unconstitutionally high taxes, or about the dangers of vaccination. Another time occurred with my grandparents after my grandmother explained to me that she was a Republican because, when she was growing up near Boston, all of the Democrats were either Irish, Catholic or Irish Catholic.

Needless to say, I have mostly learned my lesson by now and I was determined to make it through Thanksgiving dinner without so much as a crack about the *Fox News* story claiming that Socialism almost killed the Pilgrims. This reduced my possible appropriate topics for conversation to school, skiing, my fish and all the shiny new gadgets that I wish I could buy. When, halfway through the first course, my mom made a disparaging comment about Sarah Palin — something along the lines of: "Sarah Palin is such a moron" — I cringed and tried to remain focused on my gravy-covered mountain of mashed potatoes.

Much to my surprise, the segment of my extended family at my house this holiday has a deep antipathy towards the former half-term Alaskan Governor. My dad's sister and her family are what Palin would call "real Americans." They come from one of the most rural parts of upstate New York, possess a love of fast cars and big trucks

that clearly eluded my parents and are more comfortable with guns than Palin can ever pretend to be. One of my cousins built a secret compartment into his truck where he could keep his pistol and he seems to get immense satisfaction from nailing woodchucks with a sniper rifle.

I expected them to be a bit more enthusiastic about Palin, or at least to complain about Obama. Instead, they agreed wholeheartedly with my mom, and my cousin's

Her candidacy, entertaining as it might be, is no laughing matter. If George W. Bush seemed uncurious, at least he knew which Korea is a United States ally.

wife Diane joked about smashing her TV if Palin's daughter Bristol — apparently qualified as a celebrity by her status as the poster child for the failure of abstinence-only education — won "Dancing with the Stars." This would have been less of an overreaction than when a Wisconsin man took a shotgun to his TV because Bristol advanced another round.

Sarah Palin is running for President. Of course she will try to keep people guessing for as long as possible;

once she announces her candidacy, TV shows will not be able to pay her money for her unsophisticated political analysis or cheesy documentaries about her charmed life in the sticks. Her candidacy, entertaining as it might become, is no laughing matter. If George W. Bush seemed uncurious, at least he knew which Korea is a United States ally. He also never resigned his office as Governor because it was not enough fun.

My point here is not just that Sarah Palin is a moron. She was, after all, accepted to five colleges in four years — three more than I was — nominated as a Vice Presidential candidate and invented the Oxford Dictionary "word of the year" with her confused combination of "refute" and "repudiate." Neither am I calling her the anti-Christ, although here I have no proof to the contrary.

Her problem is that, despite sky-high ratings among Republican loyalists, she attracts less independent support than any other possible candidate. She could potentially win the Republican nomination in 2012, but party heavyweights correctly believe that this would be a disaster for both their party and, potentially, America. Palin's nomination is the equivalent of Nancy Pelosi winning the Democratic nomination, except without the policy experience or the Botox.

If she did not look so much like Tina Fey, no one would give her a second thought. Now *that's* a woman all Americans can support.

ZACH DALLMEYER-DRENNEN '13.5 IS FROM
CANANDAIGUA, N.Y.

Op-Ed: Andrew Torre

Left or right?

In extreme economic circumstances such as those that prevail today, before any remedies can be applied, it must be acknowledged that the economic system has failed. Obviously, if economic misery exists, there must be a system-based cause. This is true whether it's the collapse of Soviet socialism in the late 1980s or capitalism's current meltdown.

Once this systemic failure is candidly recognized, it is logical to seek solutions outside the usual functioning of that system. Relative to the way the system formerly worked, any outside-the-system solution would seem "extreme" — and there are only two extremes: left and right. The left would represent a progressive force that opts to move ahead to new — and probably unproven — ground, with the benefit of the majority of society as its goal. In the case of a capitalist collapse, this would no doubt entail moving away from a strictly private-enterprise agenda and giving a greater role to a democratic government.

The right, on the other hand, usually invents an idealistic past that it wants to retreat to — an impossible task, since that past never really existed, and history, by definition, cannot go in reverse. Stuck with no realistic place to move to — and therefore precluding any serious intellectual analysis that might lead to reasonable policy — the right must resort to aberrant positions: xenophobia, racism, distortion, deceit and even violence. The model for this response is Germany in the late 1920s and early 30s. In the throes of the worldwide capitalist depression, and with a strong socialist left pressing the Weimar government, the

Nazis invented a glorious Aryan past, attacked the Jews and moved German capitalism into a fascist state.

We are obviously experiencing echoes of that history in the current right-wing response to our economic ills: anti-immigration xenophobia, anti-Muslim racism, attacks on democratic government through anti-government rhetoric, threats of violence and blind support of corporatism. Add to these, regressive legislation — e.g. anti-abortion laws, repeal of gay and other minority protection laws, curtailing social programs such as unemployment benefits, privatizing everything, including education and Social Security and repealing regulations on the corporate world — and you have a complete portrait of the American right today.

You hear all of this from the "extreme" right every day — loud and clear. But you hear very little or nothing from the "extreme" left. That's because — unlike the 1930s — that left is not organized into a single body, as is the right-wing Tea Party. Nor is the left, unlike the right, lavishly corporate funded. Whatever filters through the mainstream media from the left e.g., MSNBC commentators like Rachel Maddow, Ed Schultz and Keith Olbermann, political comedians Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert and economist Paul Krugman is more liberal than "extreme" left. Rather than taking anti-capitalist stands as the old socialist parties did, they are reformers trying to work within the framework of the broken private-enterprise system — just as President Barack Obama has been futilely attempting to do. This moderate or liberal left uses its voice only to denigrate the very vocal extreme right, without offering any solutions

outside the system, as an "extreme" left would. There are many left-wing publications astutely analyzing our economic problems and proposing "radical" solutions. But these publications circulate primarily in small segments of academia, rarely finding a larger public audience that might be enlightened by them.

By not making the realistic acknowledgement that the system is broken, the liberals have yielded the field to the extreme right — and it is making the most of it. It nominated for congressional seats the likes of Christine O'Donnell, Sharron Angle, Rand Paul and other demagogues whose regressive thinking would have been right at home in the nineteenth century, and who offer absolutely no rational solutions for today's capitalist crisis.

The more the liberal policies that fail, the stronger the extreme right becomes by denouncing those obvious failures. What little benefit the liberal left has affected through the stimulus package, the health care bill, financial regulations and other half-hearted reforms is dwarfed by the continuing disastrous unemployment rate and a record 43.3 million Americans, living under the poverty level. These are profound systemic failures that only an "extreme" left can address.

Consensus-seekers and middle-of-the-roads beware. "Moderatism" will not, has not and cannot address the depth of the ills wrought by the new paradigm of global capitalism.

ANDREW TORRE '13 IS FROM LANDGROVE, VT.

Op-Ed: Cori Hundt

A prayer to the bicycle gods

I think I offended the bicycle gods. Perhaps I was a bicycle thief in a previous life? Or maybe I burned bicycles in political protest? After all, these explanations are the only ones I can find as to why my bike has been vandalized not once, not even twice, but on three separate occasions during my four years here at Middlebury. Three times is three too many. But it was when my bike was vandalized twice in a one-month period this semester that I finally had enough. To quote the communications office's plate posters, "This time it's personal." So, for the first time ever during my years at this college I am writing to the Opinions section of *The Campus*.

I accepted the fact that I might not see my bike ever again when it was stolen during Thanksgiving break of my sophomore year.

I was pleasantly shocked to receive a phone call seven months later in June from Public Safety saying they had found my bike in the basement of Hepburn. "Did you live in Hepburn?" I was asked. "No, I lived in Hadley and the lock was cut and my bike stolen from the bike rack I could see from the window of my dorm room," I replied.

Happy to have my bike back, I cut my losses and took it to the Bike Center on Main Street to have it repaired and tuned up when I got back from abroad in January of my junior year. Over a year after my bike was stolen, I finally had it back and in working condition.

Spring of my junior year went by smoothly without any strike from the bicycle gods. Then, in October of this semester, they attacked again. I walked out of my dorm to ride my bike to an early meeting to meet a professor and found it still locked to the bike rack outside of Munroe but flipped over, the gear hanging off and the back tire bent in half.

Amazed how this could happen another time, I later carried (literally carried, it could not be wheeled) my bike across campus to Public Safety to report the vandalism. Then I had to have a generous friend with a car take time out of their busy schedule to drive my broken bike and me to The Bike Center in town to once again to have it repaired.

Finally, about three weeks later my bike was fixed and back in action. I chalked it up to someone's drunken night and my bad luck with the gods of all things with two wheels. Surely if I left it outside Munroe, nothing more would happen to it. After all, lightning doesn't strike the same place twice.

Then only two weeks later I walked outside of my dorm and found my bike vandalized for a third time. This instance, the entire bike rack was moved and my bike handle was bent in half and as well as my back bike tire. The paint on the handle was entirely gone and there were marks on the concrete showing where someone had repeatedly smashed it into the ground.

On this occasion I was absolutely livid and incredibly hurt — not because of what it costs to fix but because of the principle of the matter. I can almost understand someone taking a bike that is not his or her own for riding purposes (read almost, not actually), but to have your bike purposefully and senselessly destroyed twice in one month is absolutely ridiculous. What bothers me the most is that I am a fellow student of yours. What if you know me? What if you pass by me in the dining hall every day? What if I caught you? While I honestly cannot envision a bicycle vandal sitting down to read the Opinions section of *The Campus* over a cup of coffee in the morning, if you do I want you to know that that bike you destroyed has a name and face behind it. My bike is the damaged blue, black and silver Trek 800 still on the bike rack outside of Munroe. My name is at the bottom of this Op-Ed.

It is by no means an especially nice bike or a good bike. But it is a bike I was given for my 14th birthday by my parents. A bike I have used to ride around campus for the past four years. A bike I will be taking home over Winter break because it costs too much to keep repairing when all I do is leave it locked up on a bike rack at Middlebury outside of my dorm.

Yes, an apology would be nice. And yes, paying for the damages would even nicer (it was \$85 and change to repair the bike the first time it was damaged after my sophomore year, \$58.80 the second time it was damaged earlier this semester and I have not yet had it repaired a third time). I do not expect said bike vandals to come forward, so what I do ask is for everyone to consider the cost of time, money and emotion that committing the crime of bicycle vandalism has on your fellow peers at this institution. It is not entertaining, it is not excusable and it is not okay. Please, please, please think before you act because this time it is personal, bicycle gods be damned.

CORI HUNDT '11 IS FROM WARREN, NJ.

Op-Ed: Daniel Pulido

Requiem for Proposition 19

It feels strange to say that in Middlebury College the war on drugs has been lost. It makes a lot more sense when you go to the Bronx in NYC, or Baltimore in Maryland. But it is strikingly clear when you think about northern Mexico or my home country: Colombia.

Some will argue that we should legalize marijuana because it is actually not that dangerous. Some will even claim that it is beneficial. I disagree, apart from the proved medical uses of marijuana; I am convinced that marijuana is very dangerous, especially if consumed before the age of 18. I could give several examples in which the consumption of marijuana has had profound negative effects in the life of a person and has served as gateway towards harder drugs.

But, for the legalization of marijuana, we don't have to be convinced that it is innocuous. When prohibition ended in 1933, it happened not because Americans suddenly changed their minds about the negative effects of alcohol. It happened because Americans realized that the law was doing more evil than good. The thesis that I am trying to advance is that the same thing is happening right now with our current laws on marijuana and other harder drugs.

If there were a law that could magically eliminate marijuana from our societies without any secondary effect, I would be the first one supporting it. But there is no such law. Despite our enormous efforts, the millions of dollars spent in law enforcement and the thousands of lives lost, we have not been able to reduce marijuana availability; in fact, in many places it is easier for a teenager to get marijuana than beer. Another factor that plays against the illegality of marijuana is that the consumption in the U.S. is actually higher than in the Netherlands, where it is legal. But the impossibility of enforcing the law is not the only problem, and, in my opinion, not even the most important one. The illegality of marijuana has fueled gang wars all around the U.S., and it has financed terribly violent conflicts in Mexico and Colombia. After 40 years of the war on drugs, we are not even close to controlling the drug dealers, and in the mean time they are deterring the development of important sectors of our societies. The legalization of marijuana is not accepting that the drug dealers have won — quite the opposite. It is taking the ultimate measure against them. Following this idea I think the legalization should not aim at making marijuana cheaper or more available. The legislation should aim at making marijuana legal enough to stop the illegal trade. We can limit the number of plac-

es that sell it, and we can prevent the prices from falling through heavy taxation.

I fully understand people who are against the legalization of marijuana based on moral arguments. But laws should not be judged purely on their intentions; they have to be considered also on their practical consequences. The laws that make marijuana illegal have been ineffective and harmful, and our society as a whole will be better off without them. We should turn our attention towards education, prevention and rehabilitation; dealing with this problem as what it is: a public health problem, not a criminal one.

Most of the criticisms that the bill received were inaccurate and purposely misleading, trying to create fear and not addressing the actual problems of the bill. The two main points used by the opposition to Prop 19 were driving high and being high at work. The bill explicitly said that it did not change any current laws prohibiting driving under the influence of drugs, driving high would have been just as illegal as it is right now. About being high at work, part (c) of Section 11304 of the bill reads: "No person shall ... be denied any right or privilege for lawfully engaging in any conduct permitted by this Act (i.e. smoking marijuana) ... Provided however, that the existing right of an employer to address consumption that *actually impairs job performance* by an employee shall not be affected." This could be read as employers not being allowed to prohibit marijuana consumption at the work place, just as they cannot do with cigarettes but can with alcohol. The other key fragment is "actually impairs job performance," this has been interpreted by some lawyers as forcing the employers to prove that marijuana consumption makes the employee completely unsuitable for a determined job. I agree that in this particular point the bill should have been required to be clearer, and the right of the employer to have a marijuana-free work environment should have been defended.

Prop 19 was not perfect. It was not clear about the rights of the employers. It had problems of implementation, as each county would have had its own regulations. It had the practical problem of California becoming an exporter of marijuana to other states. It conflicted with federal law. Nevertheless, I believe Prop 19 was the first step in the right direction.

DANIEL PULIDO '11 IS FROM BOGOTA, COLUMBIA.

Midd by MiddEast: Mori Rothman

American Pro-Israel students demonstrate for Palestinian statehood

On Tuesday night, J Street U staged its first-ever public action: I am still reeling. In what was likely the first ever Student-led, American Pro-Israel demonstration in support of Palestinian statehood, 40 student activists from colleges and universities around the East Coast gathered to raise their voices in opposition to the Hebron Fund's annual fundraiser. Standing there, in a group of students brought together by a shared outrage at organizations like the Hebron Fund, who distort what it means to be Jewish and pro-Israel, and by a shared concern for the future of Israelis and Palestinians, I felt both honored and humbled to be part of such a movement. It has been a long time since I have felt so proud to raise the Israeli flag.

The Hebron Fund, which raises money for Jewish settlement in the city of Hebron, claims that they are a pro-Israel group. They are not. Settlements are a cancer eating at Israel's soul. Not only do settlements and their supporters inflict horrifying tolls on the rights of Palestinians, but supporting settlements also goes directly against the policy goals of our own American government, whether under Bush or Obama: Funding settlements, like the Hebron Fund does, poses an existential threat to the J Street U student activists' shared dream of a democratic Jewish homeland in the land of Israel.

Despite how entrenched the Occupation has become, we stood there Tuesday night, shoulder to shoulder, to proclaim that the Occupation is not Israel. We stood there to express that it is not only possible to love Israel and oppose the Occupation, but indeed that anyone who loves Israel must oppose the Occupation.

The Hebron Fund expends so much effort to support Jewish settlers in Hebron because, they argue, Hebron is a holy site in Judaism. Indeed, Hebron is a holy site in Judaism. But it is precisely because Hebron is a holy site in Judaism that we, as Jews and as supporters of an Israel that embodies Jewish ideals, oppose doubly the crimes perpetrated there in the name of Judaism. For no stone is holier than a human soul, no piece of earth worth more than the dignity of any of God's children. We support Jews' right to worship peacefully at the holy sites in Hebron. But we cannot support the settler fortress that has been built in Hebron at the expense of basic Palestinian human rights, and that is maintained at the expense of peace. As the settler Rabbi and peace activist Menachem Froman said,

"He who opposes peace opposes God."

Those of us who have been to Hebron have seen the Jewish stars spray-painted next to slogans of "Death to Arabs" on the doors of Palestinian homes. We have seen the roads and walkways designated as "Jewish only." This is not our Judaism.

We have read the reports issued by B'Tselem, an Israeli human rights groups, stating that the settlers in Hebron regularly harass and humiliate Hebron's Palestinian residents, including "beatings, blocking of passage, destruction of property, throwing of stones and eggs, hurling of refuse ... and urinating from the settlement structure onto the street." This is not our Judaism.

We stood there to express that it is not only possible to love Israel and oppose the Occupation, but indeed that anyone who loves Israel must oppose the Occupation.

And so, as we stood across the street from a group raising money for this same Hebron settlement, located deep within what must one day become an independent Palestinian state if Israel is to retain both its Jewish and its democratic character, we asked of the Hebron Fund the following: Will you stop investing in the Occupation and jeopardizing the future of our Jewish homeland? Will you listen to the voice of our generation, calling out for justice, for peace, and for democracy? Will you acknowledge that, as Rav Abraham Isaac Kook said, actions that regard non-Jews as inferior "prompt the total destruction of [our people's] positive spirituality?"

In all likelihood, their answer to our questions will be no, whether they choose to attack us or ignore us, pretending that our voice is marginal.

Our voice is not marginal. Our numbers may have been small on Tuesday night, but we were but a sliver of the movement that is growing on campuses around this country. In less

than a year, we have established J Street U chapters on over 40 campuses across the United States, and we are gaining force every day.

We will continue for as long as it takes, to "pray with our feet," as Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel put it, until peace is accomplished.

And so, fundraisers like the Hebron Fund's event have not led us to despair at what the Zionist project has become, but rather provide us with renewed commitment to fight for what the Zionist project needs to become: an embodiment of the Jewish values of justice, tolerance, respect and peace.

We stood there on Tuesday night to send a message.

To our parents and those of their generation who truly love Israel and want to help ensure its future, we ask that you invest in Israel and not in the Occupation. You can start by making a donation to 'Breaking the Silence', 'B'Tselem' or 'Rabbis for Human rights', three amazing Israeli groups that work tirelessly to raise awareness about the situation in Hebron.

To Pro-Israel students around the country we say: No longer should you worry that speaking loudly and clearly in support of Palestinian Rights and statehood would mean betraying Israel. And to supporters of Palestinian rights we say: no longer should you hesitate to express support for Israel and Israelis as well, for fear that your message will be understood as supporting the Occupation. For there is nothing more pro-Israel than raising your voice in support of peace.

And finally, we stood there on Tuesday night as a challenge to all of those who see the Israeli flag as a flag of Occupation. Those from the Hebron Fund, who have coopted and perverted the meaning of true Zionism, and also those supporters of a simplistic and misguided boycott of Israel and Israelis, the results of which would be to alienate and isolate Israeli NGOs, academics, artists and activists who work day in and day out against the Occupation.

The Occupation is not Israel. The Hebron Fund does not speak for the American Jewish Community. And on Tuesday night, J Street U stood up to affirm that, with a flag and a few cardboard signs calling for justice.

MORI ROTHMAN '11 IS FROM YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO.

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I like to find the little nooks and crannies in Bi-hall. It's a great location for a quiet study place as well as an astonishing view. I try not to overwhelm myself with one subject so I try to study multiple subjects throughout the whole day.
RYAN BREWSTER '14

"I study most of the time in my room because all my stuff is there and because I like working in my room. I like that I can sit at my desk, on my bed."
NINA KELLY '12

"Personally I have gotten some of my best work done in Atwater library. The acoustics in the room make it really, really quiet, but there's also this big window so you can still see people walking around and the sun setting and rising. It has couches, too, so if you need to take a nap for a few minutes, you can."
DAN MURPHY '11

"I like to work in my room because if I go to the library I get too distracted by watching people. I think [study days] would be a lot easier for our sake to have extra days to [catch up on old work]."
KRISTEN DEGRAFF '13

"I always do work in my room because everything is there. I don't see the point in packing up all of my stuff and moving somewhere else. Plus when I'm done I can just open my computer and [relax]."
SHANNON MUSCATELLO '13

"In high school I didn't personally need to do too much studying. I felt like I could walk in there and wing it but I certainly feel like here much more is being risked, much more is swinging on these exams. It's just gathering the will power for studying for hours on end."
ERIC HEMPHILL '14

"I study a lot on the second floor of the library in the blue chairs because its comfortable and quiet and it's a good work space for me."
MINDY HARVEY '12

STU BRE

Everyone deals with final way. Some caffeinate, some some build a fort of books library. We decided to com find out the weird and won Middlebury students.

BI HALL

Studying in the third largest building in Vermont is sure to inspire big thinking. Cool spots like the greenhouse, the science library and the red chairs allow you to switch it up a little.

DORMS

Sometimes, studying in the comfort of our rooms — where we're sure to have food, all our materials, and naptime options — is the most relaxing of all.

HILLCREST

This is not just a study spot for environmental studies majors — everyone can appreciate the bright lights and airy atmosphere which are sure to keep you both awake and focused.

NORTH

COLLEGE STREET

"I like to study in Bi-hall. I like the atmosphere, I like that it's quiet but there's still a buzz of noise sometimes and the big windows are nice. Some of my AP classes prepared me for college but it's more reading and less busy work. There are more essays and I have to budget my time differently."

AMELIA FURLONG '14

"My room is pretty quiet so no one is ever really around. It's a lot easier to study when it's quiet. If I have to write a paper I go to Bi-hall so I can't goof off on the computer. I have to have music on [when I study]. If it's a song I know I'll ignore the music but it blocks out other sounds that would [distract me]. I don't drink coffee, no five-hour energy, no soda. Just lots of water. I feel like if I drink water I'll be healthier."

ANDREW LIND '13

"I usually study in my room or sometimes go to Bi-hall on weekends. I like studying in my room at night because I can make tea and it's convenient and I like going to Bi-hall because there are less distractions. I tend to try and keep a really regular sleep schedule because that helps me stay awake."

CAITLIN ARNOLD '11

"Bi-hall is my favorite place. It has a pretty view and it's quiet. In high school I would just study at home all the time because my parents wouldn't distract me. It's different when you're living with friends. I will definitely be studying the most for Calc 2. Life sucks in Calc 2."

KELSEY HENRY '14

"I do this weird thing where I have all my stuff on me and I sort of assess the way I feel at that very moment and start navigating the campus in my head, thinking which place is going to be the most conducive based on the assignment I have. It's so bad because I think that it's one place and then I get there and I realize that it was not where my soul was ready to be. I feel like we all do that because we don't all work at the same desk for every assignment. Like I have tables where I look at them and am like, 'That's where I wrote my environmental studies paper.'"

JANET RODRIGUES '12

UDY EAK

th finals week in their own
ate, some go sleep deprived,
of books and never leave the
d to comb the campus and
and wonderful study ways of
ts.

LIBRARY

Always a classic. Printers, books, bright lights and socialization opportunities all at hand ... it is sure to be the campus nexus next week.

AXINN/STARR

Whether you prefer the calming waterfall and natural light of Axinn or the dark wood paneling and ornate Persian rugs of Starr, the campus' center for literary and cultural studies provides a unique study experience.



Top: Students spend the evening studying in the Davis Family Library.
Bottom: A student studies on one of the couches in Starr on Tuesday.

PHOTOS BY ELEANOR HOROWITZ, PHOTO EDITOR



Campus Character: Rhiya Trivedi

By Shannon Fiedler
STAFF WRITER

There are fantasies, and there are fantasies. There is the fantasy where your loving partner sweeps you off your feet to your favorite restaurant, where you eat by candlelight, whisper sweet nothings and later return to a flower-strewn room where you make sweet, sweet love on the bed you share together. That's a totally fine fantasy, and also, most likely, a desire that you can communicate with a few well-placed hints and maybe a wink or two. And then there is the fantasy that involves your partner on all fours wearing a dog collar. This is also fine, but probably not something that you can communicate with a wink. This would probably require a bit of a talk.

Fantasies that involve degrading your partner, or being degraded, are actually fairly common. They also tend to be incredibly uncomfortable and awkward to discuss. There are unavoidable questions of respect, and rightfully so — there's not much more personal and vulnerable than sex. But there's also not much more personal than a fantasy, nor more vulnerable than expressing one that may or may not be well-received. After all, having a partner confess a fantasy that may be extraordinarily outside personal boundaries is something that should be appreciated as well. It's a level of trust most people give only to furtive Google searches, regularly-erased histories and prostitutes. Thus, admitting one to a significant other is to be valued as a sign of trust and respect.

Still, the idea that your boyfriend or girlfriend really, really, really wants to use you like a prostitute is hard not to take personally. Don't. A fantasy executed is sexual theater — parts being played and acted-out for a singular gratification. In the same way that we don't (usually) hold Kenneth Branagh liable for killing half the royalty in Denmark, once all is said and done and the chains, latex, schoolgirl skirts, marmalade and DVD of Hamlet have been put away, you and your dearly beloved are pretty much back to where you started. (Though perhaps slightly stickier.) Once the acting is over and done with, life goes on.

As an actor, a fantasy-facilitator, there are still a couple of lingering questions. Did you just get used? Of course you did, and hopefully, you were fully aware of that and committed to it. It's just like a more elaborate form of unreciprocated oral sex — just like you are (hopefully) aware that often a gent or a lady would rather bliss out and pass out than return the favor, so the execution of a fantasy is, at its heart, a gift. There is pleasure from pleasing your partner, sure — and hopefully, you have a partner grateful enough to pay you back on a later date with an executed fantasy, or a bit of home cooking, or a lengthy massage or whatever the coin of the realm is. A more complex and protracted question is: Is this what s/he always thinks of when we're having sex? Is this what they really want, and just have never been able to tell me? What implications does this have on their personality, on who they are and how much I know them?

Honestly, I don't know the answer to that. For the last question, at least, (and this one goes out to you furtive fantasizers, too) I will say that fantasies occur in the most unlikely places, to the most unlikely people. Just like the stereotype of the driven, powerful, controlling gent or lady just loves being tied up and submissive, sometimes even Bambi longs for a bit of bondage. But, just as in theater, there's a vast gulf between a fantasy, even an executed one, and a reality. Bringing to life a fantasy involving a cop rarely requires more than a change of wardrobe and a pair of handcuffs, not enrolling with the local police department. But it still means a willingness to don a collar, at least.

James Moore '12 is from Los Angeles, Calif.

If you've ever been in Proctor Lounge, you've probably seen Rhiya Trivedi '12.

"I spend a disgusting amount of time here," Trivedi said. "People call it my office."

If you can't find her in Proctor, you could probably find her coordinating youth organizations in her native Canada, working on policy in Washington D.C. or participating in the climate talks in Copenhagen.

Trivedi is a grassroots clean air activist.

"As an activist, you spend most of your time on e-mail and Twitter," she said. "So I spend my time in Proctor drinking unhealthy amounts of chai [tea] and seeing my friends while I work."

Trivedi has done tremendous amounts of work for clean air, but she was not born an activist.

"The way I see my life is that I didn't have thoughts until I was 14," Trivedi said. "I ended up at a boarding school in New Hampshire where my older brother ran the environmental group. The organization fell into my lap."

When Trivedi joined the group, EcoAction, in 2006, the organization was not very active. However, during this time, climate talks were kicking up. Trivedi began looking at local environmental action and saw that what people did on an individual basis mattered, and suddenly the group, and Trivedi's activism, began to grow.

"I grabbed on with two hands," Trivedi said. "And I took ownership."

So the environment went from being something Trivedi did not think much about to something that was the defining force in her life.

"It's why I came to Midd," Trivedi said. "And they put me in the Feb class, which was the best thing that ever happened to me."

The Febs were the most thoughtful, dynamic group," Trivedi said. "The environment of being a Feb is awesome. Everyone is passionate about something — I don't care if that something is underwater basket weaving — but it teaches me how to be passionate."

Before attending Middlebury, Trivedi spent her semester off in Gujarat, a small town in West India, living the simple life.

"I almost didn't come back," she said. "I have this thing where every two years I [go] to the developing world. I have to remember how most people live and do whatever I can to help out."

This past summer Trivedi travelled to West Borneo to distribute energy efficient stoves. In this area, women spend many hours toiling over a large open pit fire to cook for their large families, which can lead to serious respiratory trouble. By distributing these stoves, Trivedi combined her passions of helping the less-fortunate and environmental activism.

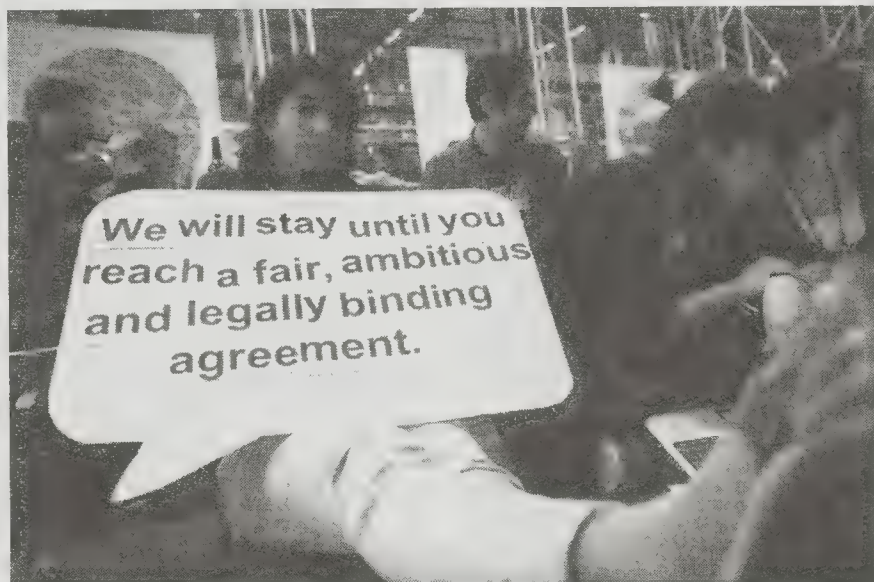
"I can't decide whether these trips are more for me or for the other,"

said Trivedi. "It's so easy to forget when I'm here. I'm very susceptible to wherever I am."

Trivedi was also able to meet Middlebury's Scholar-in-Residence in Environmental Studies Bill McKibben, who runs 350.org, a major environmentalist organization, who then put her in touch with a group of Canadian activist group called the Canadian Youth Delegation.

"The group is the most colorful, amorphous thing," Trivedi said. "It's international youth working for change. It's about the future and our generation, but it's controlled entirely by our parents."

The Canadian organization gets support at home and then goes to the international climate talks, including those at Copenhagen, which



Trivedi participated in a sit-in at the Bella Center in Copenhagen, Denmark during the climate talks.
Photo courtesy of Ben Powless.

Trivedi herself participated in.

"I joined the delegation in summer 2009," Trivedi said, "and worked through December organizing young people in Canada."

"I'm embarrassed to say I'm doing nothing at Middlebury right now," Trivedi said. "My mood fluctuates with the mood of the climate movement. And right now it's in a big think. When Copenhagen failed, there was a need for international soul searching."

So where is the future of environmentalism headed?

"It's a weird push and pull between grassroots, in the dirt and the federal pursuit," said Trivedi. "We can't see the long term."

And where is Trivedi's own future heading?

"I hope I can stop caring and bake bread for the rest of my life," Trivedi admits. "I have this secret hope of being a baker if nothing else mattered."

But Trivedi understands that things do matter, and she has already immersed herself into the clean air campaign.

"People have invested a lot in me to be prepared," said Trivedi, "and I am going to try to honor that. I'll probably do some kind of political thing."

There is one thing about politics, though, that Trivedi is not particularly fond of.

"You can't wear flip-flops in that world," Trivedi said. "I just have this thing about shoes. I hate the fashion of politics."

Trivedi knows that not everyone can be like her and devote endless energy into the cause and thus bounces her ideas off of her friends.

"My friends are the guinea pigs," Trivedi said. "They're the real people who do other things, and that's what important."

"But right now," Trivedi said. "I've been enjoying Midd, trying to do well in school and loving my friends pretty hard. It's so easy to be a nerd here, and I need that. I'm unabashedly a nerd, and at Midd I can be accepted and embraced. I find that very precious, no jokes."

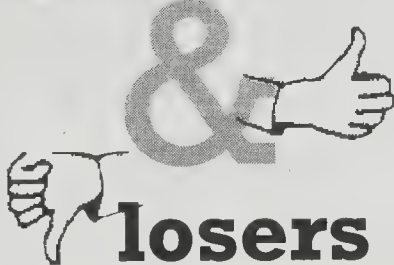


Vincent A. Jones IV

ATWATER DINNER: INDIAN STYLE

Last Monday, Nov. 29, Atwater dining hall kicked off its first of many dinners featuring different cuisine from around the world with some delicious Indian cooking.

winners



losers

Coffee

Never more appreciated

Reading Day

A small but bright spot on the horizon

Study Buddies

Misery loves company

Finals

Study

Finals

'til you

Finals

die.

Student starts ski tuning business

By Ashley Cheung
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury Ski Tuning is a new business in the campus community, located at Old Stone Mill and founded by Tom Crocker '11.5. It offers full tuning for skis and snowboards as well as door-to-door service.

Crocker will sharpen base edge, side edge and add coat of wax that acts as a "buffer between you and the snow, making your skis extra smooth by avoiding friction with the snow."

"Tuning skis can be pretty simple. There are two ways you can do it — a ski shop with expensive machines or hand tuning," said Crocker. "Hand tuning involves files and clamps and is a more fine-tuned art in the sense that you can really change the ski and you're not just running it through a machine."

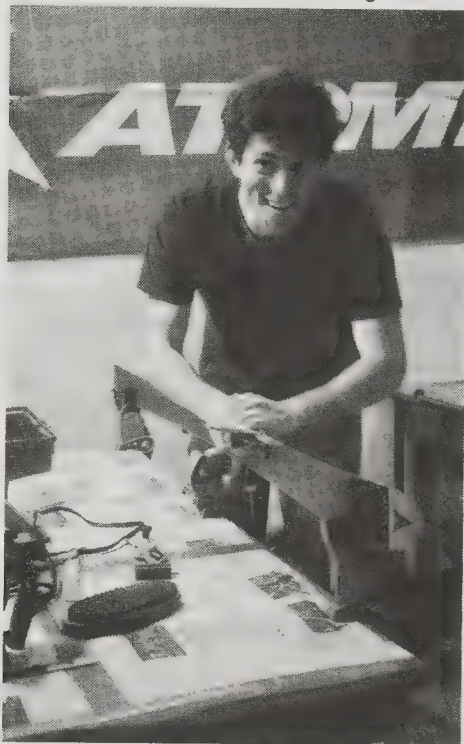
As a proponent of the more personalized tune, Crocker, with his hands-on approach and use of high-end race wax, tries to tune skis to the highest precision possible.

"You can tell me exactly how you want your skis tuned, or if you're not sure, I'll talk to you to find out what kind of skier you are and figure out how your skis should be tuned to you," said Crocker.

Crocker had never been to the Old Stone Mill before he actually set up shop there. He knew it was a space of "innovation and creativity" and that it had hosted student entrepreneurs, so he decided to check it out. Crocker went onto the Old Stone Mill website, submitted an application and within two weeks of applying he received his workspace.

"The space is gorgeous," Crocker said. "It's right above Storm Café, I have a view of Otter Creek. It's bigger than my dorm room, so there's definitely room for expansion if need be."

Crocker's idea for his ski-tuning business



Photos by Daisy Zhou, Photo Editor

has been in the works since he was in high school, where he was a USSA alpine ski racer at New Hampton School in New Hampshire. New Hampton School had its own tuning shop, and before a big race, Crocker's teammates would want their skis tuned so that they could race well. However, they did not want to pay what a ski shop would charge them. Instead, they wanted personalized tuning with the highest precision possible for exactly what they wanted to do, and this is something Crocker could offer them.

"I thought, well I'm tuning my own skis the night before a race, why not tune my friends' skis too and get them to pay me a little bit?" said Crocker.

Crocker is also a relatively experienced entrepreneur in areas other than skiing. During high school he started an interior painting business with some friends. His team began by painting dorm rooms and eventually moved on to private houses and private businesses in the area. Four or five years later, the business is still going strong, showing the lasting impact of Crocker's first business attempt.

"I absolutely love working for myself," said Crocker. "I have worked several jobs where I had bosses, but I don't like being told what to do, when to do it, how to do it [etc.]. I like to figure those things out on my own. I think being an entrepreneur is a great way to do your own thing and really enjoy what you're doing. If nobody else is telling you what to do, you're only doing what you want to do."

Crocker has plenty of experience in the world of skiing: he has worked as a snowmaker in Vail, Colo., as a member of the Cannon Mountain Ski Patrol in New Hampshire, as a member of the Snow Bowl Ski Patrol, and he has been tuning skis for eight years. He has also worked with several ski shops and professionals to perfect his tuning skills and he has the highest quality tuning equipment available.

In the town of Middlebury, there are only two places to get your skis tuned: the Ski Haus (formerly the Alpine Shop) or the Snow Bowl, so Crocker saw the need for a business that offers door-to-door service.

"Here at Middlebury, we don't have time to go drop our skis off, wait a few days, go back and get them," said Crocker. "I came up with the door-to-door thing where I pick up your skis, tune them, and bring them back. I can get it done within 24-48 hours."

However, there was a time when Crocker thought his business might be shut down by the College administration for competing with the Middlebury Snow Bowl's Ski Shop. After filling out a student vendor contract, which is a new form for student entrepreneurs as of last May, Crocker was asked to prove to the administration that his business is not in direct competition with the Snow Bowl. His main arguments were that his ski tuning business offers door-to-door service

and hand tuning, which are services not offered by the Snow Bowl. With door-to-door service, Crocker hopes to reach students who do not ski regularly at the Snow Bowl and who instead frequent places such as Mad River Glen, Sugarbush and Killington.

In addition, Crocker's business is in fact symbiotic with the Snow Bowl Ski Shop, directing students there for services he cannot offer.

"I don't stone grind skis, replace base structures or mount bindings," said Crocker. "When I've been asked about these services, I tell students that the Snow Bowl is a great place to have these things done."

Crocker is not the only student at Middlebury interested in setting up shop.



The first day he advertised his website, go/skitune or go/skituning, was the day of the first snowfall of 2010. By the end of the day, he had already received four e-mails from students interested in getting involved in the tuning business. Many of Crocker's friends have also expressed interest in helping out with the tuning, pickup and delivery, and the general management of the business. For the time being, he is feeling out the market and trying to see how busy his business will get.

"Luckily, the busiest time [for my business] will be the least busy time in my schedule: J-term," Crocker said. "Ideally, business is going to grow enough that I will need to hire people. It offers a service that Middlebury kids would really like to have — cheap tuning where they really don't have to do anything."

According to Crocker, the biggest challenge he faces with this business is in scheduling.

"Everyone's so busy here that just finding a time that someone can be in their room that aligns with my schedule can be difficult," Crocker said.

To learn more about the Middlebury Ski Tuning business, view a detailed price list or to arrange to have your skis tuned, simply visit go/skitune or go/skituning.

"It's something every student who owns a pair of skis should take advantage of," said Crocker. "Let me take care of it so that you can make the most of this winter."

Under the Raydar



One thing that always comes into clarity when I am home for Thanksgiving is that vivid line between being a child and being an adult. This distinction is always reinforced due to the fact that, in my family, one is only allowed to graduate from the "kids" table upon marriage, so it becomes a strange emerging-adulthood limbo land in which my older cousins and I drink wine and get tipsy while listening to our little cousins tell us about songs they've made up, baseball, magic, and Hello Kitty.

I have always detested the rank of a "kid" at that table, until this year.

Over the break, my aunts, cousins and I went out to brunch with two of my three-year-old cousins, who wore dresses, smiles and glittery shoes. When they marched across our tiny lawn, lined with a rusted fence and dead flowers, one gasped, "What a beautiful place!"

The other smiled and said, "Today is just going to be the best day!"

After piling everyone into a minivan, we pulled up to the kitschy diner, Koffee Korner. It's a narrow building with a clutter of round tables. My aunt waltzed in and began ordering the waitress around, asking her to move the tables this way and that way so to fit us all in just the right arrangement, and as the waitress and I rearranged and re-rearranged, nothing seemed right.

"I guess this'll just have to do," my aunt finally sighed as the waitress brushed off her hands.

As we sat down, embarrassed, my sister murmured, "Let's never grow up to be like that."

Over the course of brunch, the cutlery was not clean enough, the window shouldn't have been open and the food took too long — according to my aunt. According to my little cousins, the muffins were the best, the spoon was an instrument and nothing was more exciting than the idea of braiding our hair later.

Now, I know that my particularly grouchy and picky aunt is an extreme example of how an adult can behave (and this simplified retelling neglects the tantrum my cousin had on the way to the diner), but the variations in conversation between the adult table and the kid table — at whichever tables we occupied over break — made me feel thankful to be stuck at one.

Instead of revolving conversation around what was going wrong with the world, my cousins reminded me that sometimes we possess the ability to forget the world and create our own.

In *The Little Prince*, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry writes about how grownups love figures, how they love order and qualifications and monetary worth, how they see things in a way judged by the exterior and forget the magic of seeing things with the heart. My aunt saw a room full of clutter and dirty silverware, when moments before, instead of seeing a rusted fence and an untamed garden, my cousin saw something beautiful. Saint-Exupéry writes: "If you were to say to the grown-ups: 'I saw a beautiful house made of rosy brick, with geraniums in the windows and doves on the roof,' they would not be able to get an idea of that house at all. You have to say to them: 'I saw a house that cost \$20,000.' Then they would exclaim: 'Oh, what a pretty house that is!'"

Thanksgiving has reminded me to keep looking for the beautiful things that are so simply apparent to the not-yet-adult eye. I want to be able to wake up and decide that this is going to be the best day just because in my world, it can be, without weighing in all of the factors in my planner or my over-assessing perspective. I'm fine with sitting at the kid's table for a while longer, where a dirty spoon is an instrument instead of a mistake.

Rachael Jennings '11 is from West Chester, Penn.

Three Reasons You Should Go/Skitune

1 Simplicity

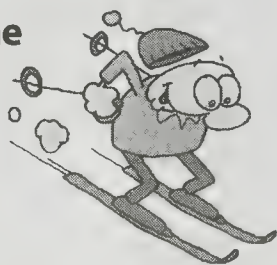
All you have to do is fill out the form on the website and your skis will be picked up from your door room, hand tuned, and returned to you. You barely have to lift a finger!

2 The Price is Right

\$15-\$25 for skis, \$15-\$35 for snowboards. See website for more detail.

3 Not Just for Skis, Not Just for Students

Crocker will pick up skis from any faculty member at his or her office. Additionally, Crocker can tune snowboards as well as skis, so all your winter needs will be taken care of.



Tom's Favorite Places to Ski

1. Chamonix, France
2. Valle Nevado, Chile
3. Vail, Colo.
4. Mad River Glen, Vt.
5. Cannon Mountain, N.H.

Ski Tips from Tom

1 Skis and Snowboards should be tuned at least every three to five times you go skiing if you really want to get the best of your equipment and make the most of your skiing experience, as wax will only stay on your skis or snowboards for about two or three says of skiing.

2 New skis should be tuned before you ski.

3 At the end of the season, a coat of wax should be applied to your skis before you store them to help keep them from drying out over the summer.

Student-led plan to keep professor takes off

By Leah Pickett
FEATURES EDITOR

When Visiting Professor of Education Studies Professor Tara Affolter checked her inbox on Nov. 14, she was in for a big surprise. She was greeted by an e-mail from Jay Saper '13 alerting her to the fact that he had embarked on a campaign to keep her at Middlebury. At that point, Saper had already met with the Dean of the College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley Collado, introduced the idea at an Institutional Diversity Committee meeting, and contacted President of the College Ronald Liebowitz about the issue. In his e-mail to Affolter, Jay told her that he'd recently set up a "go/" where students could post comments about how her teaching had affected their lives.

"In no way did I expect it or see it coming," Affolter said. "It was a delightful surprise."

As a visiting professor, Affolter's three-year stint covering for two professors' sabbaticals is set to come to an end at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, but due to a student-run push, she might just end up staying. Affolter teaches education classes and the popular "Education in America," and plans to launch a new course, "Education for Social Justice," this spring.

The process began early this year when Saper began talking with Collado, who agreed to the importance of retaining a professor who had demonstrated such a commitment to promoting diversity on campus.

"[Collado and I] realized that the diversity issues cannot all be reduced to [Collado]," Saper said, "but rather if the school is serious in any way we must all take responsibility to address diversity in our classrooms. [Collado] was excited and agreed that we should definitely try to keep those professors who are currently incorporating diversity into their classroom."

After talking with Collado, Saper took the issue to the Institutional Diversity Committee under the Student Government Association (SGA), which wholeheartedly supported the effort. Saper then wrote Liebowitz, encouraging him to consider extending Affolter's stay at the College.

The most visible initiative, however, has been the setup of an online forum in which Affolter's former students can post comments about how Affolter has specifically affected their lives and academic experiences. Saper e-mailed all of Affolter's former students saying, "I am sure that all of you have been touched by the tremendous gift that is Professor

Affolter ... it would be wonderful if you would demonstrate your support on that site to retain her."

There was an immediate outpouring of responses. The page, found at go/keepaffolter, has elicited responses that range from the simple, "This is one teacher that you do not want to lose, President Liebowitz," (Zach Marlette '13) to the more introspective: "I am a better citizen of this world because of Tara" (Alison Mehravari '10).

"We decided that an online venue where people could actually write their comments would be more appropriate than a list of signatures," Saper said. "I know that many of us have personal stories about the way she has impacted our lives and that certainly would send a very powerful message."

When Affolter followed the link to her page, she found over 50 glowing responses.

"I was pretty overwhelmed," she said. "I think that it's pretty rare in our culture that we allow ourselves to open ourselves to that kind of praise and allow ourselves to give that kind of praise. It's amazingly humbling."

When Saper visited Liebowitz during his open office hours to discuss the matter, he found that the president had read the postings and "realized the great consistency among them," Saper said. Ultimately, the forum has proven to be one of the most powerful tools in advancing the cause, given the high degree of effusively positive reviews.

"The site was huge," Saper said. "That was extremely powerful, and I think that was the most influential thing because it was the voice of so many students ... [they demonstrated] how important she has been to making them reconsider some different things in life and direct their lives' focus and really stay as a support for people who are continually faced with difficult situations on this campus."

Although Affolter had never thought that she would be staying at Middlebury after her stint as a visiting professor, her positive experiences at Middlebury have ensured that, if a new position is created to allow her to join the faculty more permanently, she will be likely to stay.

"I don't think people realize that visiting people typically are not treated as well as we're treated

here," Affolter said. "[Middlebury was] really, really supportive, and that says a lot about an institution."

In addition to being funded to do research and incorporated fully into the department, Affolter had the opportunity to create two new courses: her winter term course on playwright August Wilson this year, and her spring course, Education for Social Justice. And she hopes to do more.

"I feel like there is work to be done to make this institution everything that it could be," Affolter said. "We need to have some discussions, particularly around issues of race and inclusive education. I think I have something to contribute to that, and that feels good."

Whatever the outcome, the campaign has so far accomplished one thing beyond a doubt: demonstrating to Affolter the lasting impression she has made on her students.

"The real beauty of whatever happens with it is it is nice to see that I've made an impact, and that's great," Affolter said. "It's been a great ride, and it's still been a good professional experience."

The bulk of the remaining process now lies in the hands of Collado, Dean of Faculty Jim Ralph, Provost and Executive Vice President Alison Byerly, and Program Chair and Lecturer in Education Studies Gregg Humphrey, who plans to submit a plan to the Dean of Faculty to rehire Affolter this week. However, Saper aims to keep the pressure on with the help of fellow Institutional Diversity Committee members.

"I felt that she has done so much for this campus that it would be a shame to lose her," Saper said. "So we can't back up and let it all dissipate into nothing."



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Garlic Knot Pie



The Middlebury Campus

In addition to *The Campus*, the College is host to a multitude of student publications, both online and in print. From creative writing to environmentalism, these organizations represent the different facets of the College using the power of the written word. We got the scoop on some of these publications to see what they were all about.

Sweatervests and Kaleidoscopes bring the in New Cool

By DEIRDRE SACKETT and AMANDA PERTIERRA
Arts Editors

MIDDLEBURY GEOGRAPHIC

PETER SPYROU '10.5
Middlebury Geographic takes its name from — you guessed it — *National Geographic*. Like its namesake, the magazine specializes in travel writing, the exploration of environmental issues, student independent research, scholarly work and global expeditions. Stunning photographs decorate nearly every page of this magazine, which publishes twice a year.

KALEIDOSCOPE

KARTIK RAJU '11
The Kaleidoscope is the College's yearbook. As such, it only publishes once a year. Filled to the brim with stories, photographs and memories, *The Kaleidoscope* recounts the colorful adventures of Middlebury graduates every year. It also features portraits of the student body and a special segment dedicated to Senior and Senior Feb Graduation ceremonies. For over 100 years, *The Kaleidoscope* has been a keepsake for Midd alumni to remind them of the time they spent here. Yearbooks dating back to the 1890's are available in the library.

SWEATERVEST

RACHAEL JENNINGS '11
Sweatervest is one of the College's creative writing publications. It features student prose, poetry, fiction, nonfiction, photography and anything in between. *Sweatervest* publishes biannually, and has been in print for six years. Students can submit entries to sweatervest@middlebury.edu.

MONDEGREEN

JOANNA ROTHKOPF '12.5
Mondegreen is the College's music journal. Its goal is to expose students to music and related cultural phenomena, and acts as a forum for discussion and insight into the modern music climate while encouraging diverse and multi-cultural perspectives on art and music in general. Publishes biannually.

THE CRAMPUS

CHRIS JOHNSON '12
The Crampus is a magazine that parodies *The Campus*. Articles are written by anonymous contributors and put a humorous or satirical spin on issues facing the campus and student life. *The Crampus* publishes biannually.

MIDDBLOG

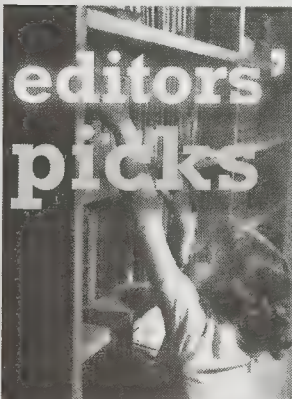
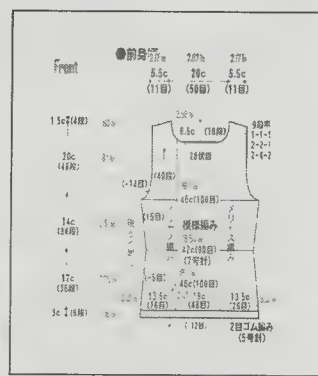
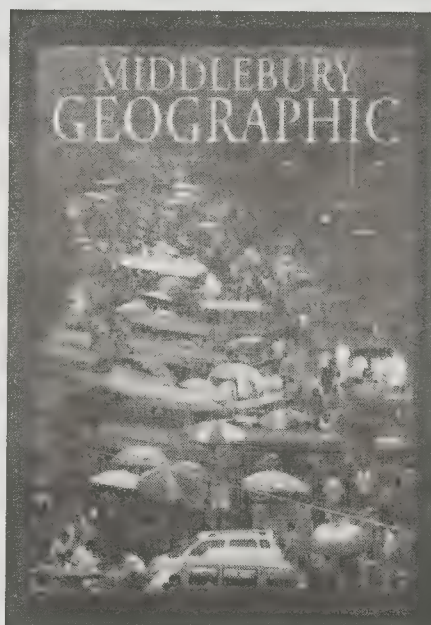
GEORGE ALTSHULER '10.5 AND CASEY MAHONEY '11
MiddBlog is an alternative news and events blog for students. The blog welcomes posts from all members of the College community. From breaking news to Middlebury media, *MiddBlog* has it covered. Interested writers should e-mail tips@midd-blog.com.

NEW, COOL

JONATHAN KAY '11
As one of the College's more recent publications, *New, Cool Magazine* strives to celebrate both the diversity and the oneness of the Middlebury community.

BLACKBIRD

CHRIS BRADY '12
Blackbird is another, more recent creative writing publication on campus. The magazine features high-quality creative fiction and non-fiction as well as art, including but not limited to photography, drawing, multimedia, comics and music. Students can submit entries to blackbird@middlebury.edu. *Blackbird* publishes biannually.



editors' picks

02 Carnal Embrace
Hepburn Zoo
8 p.m. (and 10:30 p.m. Friday)

Senior work of Lilli Stein '11 and Becca Wear '11. The protagonist falls down the rabbit hole and must crawl her way through the darkest tunnels and locked doors of sexuality. Tickets \$4. Runs through the 4th.

04 Hunger
Dana Auditorium
3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

This acclaimed film is a shocking and unforgettable portrayal of life within the Maze Prison at the time of the 1981 IRA hunger strike, led by Bobby Sands. Sponsored by the Hirschfeld International Film Series. Free

04 Winter Vocal Recital
CFA Concert Hall
8 p.m.

Student vocalists cap off a semester of study with a group performance of works from artists such as Brahms, Mozart, and Puccini. Sponsored by the Department of Music. Free.

05 La Canterina
CFA Concert Hall
2 p.m.

The Music Department and MUSC 240 proudly present the Vermont premiere (probably) of Franz Joseph Haydn's opera buffa, *La Canterina (The Diva)*. Featuring India Laughlin '11, Melinda Marquis '11, Katie Dunleavy '12 and Noah Silverstein '11. Free.

Student efforts lead to a fresh, revitalized Bunker

By Toren Hardee
ARTS EDITOR

The Bunker has some stubborn connotations in the minds of many Middlebury students, especially those that first entered its hallowed halls (nervous and tipsy) as bright-eyed, bushy-tailed first-years during its heyday in the '07-'08 academic year. But despite our derogatory references to its hygiene or the half-remembered, incriminating incidents, it undoubtedly holds a special place in our hearts; it gets its brief shout-out in the "Midd Kid Rap," and another classmate of mine has written a lesser-known but much-beloved rap devoted entirely to the Bunker's praises.

But by last year, its glory as a late-night Friday hotspot had faded somewhat. It proved the perfect venue for a concert by electronic circummaster Dan Deacon last fall, but it hosted very few other outside artists, and its regular Friday nights DJ-ed by students were not particularly well attended. Leading up to this academic year, it seemed to occur to a number of different students that it would be a shame to let such an established space go to waste.

Nerissa Khan '12, president of VACA and MCAB Concerts Committee member (and DJ), mentioned the comments made by veteran DJ Alexander Technique when they booked him for a show in the Bunker last year: "as soon as he walked in he was looking around at the space and he said, 'this is insane ... it sucks that you guys don't use this that often — artists would be really excited to play here.' That's when it crystallized for me," said Khan, "this is the closest thing we have to a club!" And it shouldn't be put to waste.

"It's a real shame that it has such a bad reputation," added Reilly Steel '11, also an MCAB Concerts Committee member and aspiring DJ. Steel and Khan are also contributors to "Ignite the Sound," a blog founded by Emmanuelle

Saliba '11.5 — focused on posting mp3s, articles, interviews and video related to electronic music and the wider artistic culture surrounding it — which has put its stamp on a couple of the events at Bunker this fall. Feeling dissatisfied in much of the College's concert scene and wanting to see the Bunker put to use, Khan and Steel both decided last year to join the Concerts Committee in hopes of bringing "this music, and the vibes, the fun of it all, the ruthlessness of it all, to a wider audience," in the words of Steel.

Fortunately, their resolution coincided with the decision of the Bunker staff to hand over event programming responsibilities to MCAB. "We have a great venue in the Bunker, so we felt

alone, saw the Storm-Trooper-helmeted DJ duo Lazerdisk Party Sex play to a packed house on Oct. 8.

"It turned out to be a great night and set the stage for the rest of the fall," said Giammarco. The next was VACA's annual Halloween party, titled "No Riot: with the Palms Out Crew," presented by VACA, MCAB and Ignite the Sound. And finally, on Nov. 19, (deep breath) MCAB, VACA, Ignite the Sound and GlobeMed presented "dubNIGHT at the Bunker," featuring DJs Balls of Steel (Steel), Dubmuffin (Khan) and Tyler Madden '12.

All three events were crowded but relatively trouble-free, thanks to the diligent staffing of those that run the Bunker.



Photo by Zach Doleac

Maggie Melburg '12 with Lazerdisk Party Sex during their set. Steel pictured to the far right.

our strengths would be to host and run the event while MCAB could handle the evening's performance," said Alex Giammarco '11, co-president of the Bunker, as previous attempts by the Bunker staff to handle programming had "not worked out as well as we would have hoped."

So all three events this fall have been booked by the MCAB Concerts Committee, with some collaboration. The first, presented by MCAB

"They've been awesome to work with," agreed Cathy Ahearn '11 and Hannah Wilson '11, Co-Chairs of the MCAB Concerts Committee. Like Khan and Steel, they had plenty of praise for the excellence of the Bunker as a venue for concerts and parties.

"The production costs are low because the sound equipment and the staff are already there," said Ahearn, adding, "usually we have to

go through catering to have alcohol at an event, but the Bunker is technically a bar, so that's also much easier."

If that's not enough to dispel your cynicism and convince you that the Bunker is one of the superior event venues on our campus, there are more events planned for Winter Term and the spring that probably will. Starting in Winter Term, WRMC will begin a bi-weekly residence in the Bunker, featuring several of the radio station's roster of DJs each night; but don't expect the indie rock you typically hear coming out of the speakers in Proctor.

"The music won't be 'Come On Eileen,' but neither will it be inaccessible noise-rock," said WRMC General Manager Taylor Smith '11. "Prepare to dance until you cannot walk," he added.

"We'll probably book one show for J-term in the Bunker," said Steel, "but we already are having a big show in McCullough with Alexander Technique and [DJ, producer, and remixer] Junior Sanchez." It's obviously not in the Bunker but it sounds too killer to go unmentioned: "We're trying to bring sort of a 90s rave vibe to it, and it'll be a big one, like 500 people, and we're going to completely retrofit the space, so the stage will be ... there will be no stage."

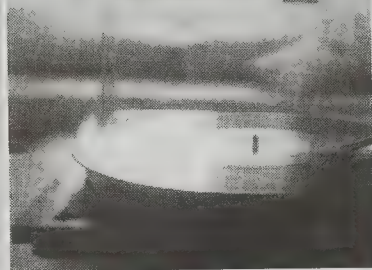
"The DJs are going to be right in the middle of the crowd," said Khan.

Steel, Khan, Ahearn and Wilson all said that the Bunker will probably host three more big events in the spring, in addition to the continuing residency of WRMC. "We would appreciate any feedback from students as to how we can improve the Bunker. Any concerns can be directed to myself or to the Bunker fanpage and group on Facebook," said Giammarco. If the crowds continue to look as pleased as they have at the last few events, I can't imagine there will be too many complaints.



ISO Cultural Show: On Nov. 19, the McCullough Social Space came alive with the stories, dances and music of Middlebury's international community in the largest student run performance on campus. Students proudly represented their native countries and cultures, dressed in beautiful costumes and headdresses. From Japanese hip hop to traditional Tibetan song to thundering Caribbean beats, each and every act was unique. Photos by Vincent A. Jones.

FOR THE record



by Dickie Redmond
Artist | Kanye West
Album | *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy*

Kanye West used to be rap's golden boy. Yes, he was a "College Dropout," but he left school to pursue his passion — music. And he wrote songs titled "Hey Mama," in which he rapped about his mother's "famous homemade chicken soup." The song was so instantly catchy and so heartfelt that it made moms everywhere cool. If Kanye loves his

Mom and wants the world to know, then I do too!

Now, Kanye doesn't have that golden boy reputation. Last year at the MTV Video Music Awards, he belittled America's country-singin' sweetheart, Taylor Swift, as she went to accept her award for Best Female Video. More recently — like, in the past month — West embarrassed himself on the Today Show with Matt Lauer when he tried to sympathize with George W. Bush, who, funnily enough, claimed that Kanye was responsible for the "most disgusting" moment of his presidency. West, it seems, knows how it feels to be severely misunderstood ... or at least I think that's what he was getting at.

Suffice it to say, Kanye has not had the best press in the past year. He has, however, turned his public meltdown into some good rap music on his latest album, *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy*. The album is a cathartic moment for West, who, over the past few years, lost his mother and his positive public image. Kanye emerges from these events full of angst, with an I-don't-give-a-f**k approach to music. He's got an attitude derived from punk rock ethos — a "me versus the world" tone that is delivered with raw

emotion. Kanye is a victim of the spotlight — see: "All of the Lights" — and he's crafted a whole album out of that outsized "victimhood."

As *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* carries a punk rock swagger, the album is Kanye's most rock n' roll effort to date. Indeed, it's on this record where we hear King Crimson sampled and where West gives a nod to Black Sabbath's "Iron Man." Even more, this rock-meets-rap fusion is solidified in all of the warm, heavy guitar solos on the album. This record, then, is West's acceptance of Jay-Z's proclamation of the "Death of Autotune" — a plea for rappers to drop the tight jeans and start rapping more violently. *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy*, like "Death of Autotune," features abundant guitar riffs and harsh lyrics.

On "Power," Kanye reaches his raunchiest moment when he raps, "Tell them Yeezy said they can kiss my whole ass/ More specifically, they can kiss my ass hole." Or, wait, maybe that moment is on "Gorgeous," where he almost laughingly states, "Cuz the same people that try to black ball me forgot about two things, my black balls." I can't tell if Kanye is trying to add humor to the album

or if he's being serious, but I think that's the point: West has become so outrageously outspoken, and the public has become so outrageously offended by his antics, that he feels the need to create an album that itself is absurd. It's a fight fire with fire tactic that only works because, again, West doesn't give a f**k.

And it's this attitude — the horrifying apathy, the middle finger stuck up to the world — that makes the first half of *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* a success. As for the highlights: "Power" features tribal rock n' roll production that ends with West romanticizing his own suicide; needless to say, it's heavy. "Monster," thanks to Nicki Minaj's ability to shake a room with her voice, is by far the hardest moment on the album; and "All of the Lights" with its drum-and-bass-meets-orchestral-production is a pop sensation. Unfortunately, halfway through the album, Kanye loses his punk attitude, opting instead for boring, drawn-out songs and a sappy rendition of a recent breakup. It's no doubt that the album loses steam, but the first few songs almost make up for the sudden drop off in raw energy.

Eloquence and agony prevail in Hecuba

By Eliza Wallace
STAFF WRITER

The Department of Theatre and Dance's production of Euripides' *Hecuba* was, without a doubt, a successfully executed tragedy. The emotions stirred by its actors went far deeper than sadness. It ran in the Seeler Studio Theater, a perfectly intimate space for the sparseness of an ancient Greek play. The set was simple: nothing more than plain white, sail-like backdrops and a pile of white sand on the black stage. Bright light projections were cast upon the backdrop during intense scenes, enhancing the unadorned, yet effective atmosphere. Two television sets showing a variety of film clips throughout the play were raised on a shelf in the upstage left corner of the stage. The TVs were probably the only disparate element of the otherwise extremely streamlined production, and at some points were able to accomplish a sort of exterior commentary on the themes of the drama. The costumes were simple, though the choice to garb the Greeks in modern army uniforms was a powerful and contemporary aesthetic statement.

The play opened with a foreboding opening scene, a monologue from the drowned son of Hecuba. Polydorus (Teddy Anderson '13.5) brought tidings of pain and misfortune to the quickly sinking hearts of the audience, whose naïve smiles of anticipation were soon wiped away and replaced with wide-eyed

dismay — we were being pulled into a dark story, filled with the black wraiths that held the murdered man aloft. Anderson was impressively adept at actually passing for the breathless dead as his corpse was brought in by pallbearers later in the performance.

A strong exploration of matriarchal suffering and the power and pain of women was evident. Hecuba (Michaela Lieberman '10.5)

ages that appeared on the otherwise slightly incomprehensible slideshow were pictures of explosions and destruction during the most painfully cruel parts of the play that portrayed the self-destructive tragedy of human kind.

I was shocked to find the most enjoyable aspects of the play were the choral interludes. These are usually somewhat distracting and have been the least interesting part of the Greek structure for me, but in *Hecuba*, the chorus, led by Ele Woods '10, was as lovely as a desolate dream, drifting about the stage with hauntingly beautiful singing voices or fierce chanting.

Lieberman stole the show, of course, as Hecuba. She became one with the grieving mother — lonely, afraid, brave, enraged, proud, distraught, conniving and hysterical — she embodied the complex character who suffered the greatest losses that a human can face in this life. Her frantic grief was trumpeted with a heartrending weeping that characterizes the entire show. It is here that

the production walks a fine line between grief as a farce or epitome. If Lieberman's tears or the other components of the play had been ill-timed or sloppily presented, the viewer would surely be distanced from the sorrow the script portrays. Thankfully, this was not the case, and the strident wailing that pierced all tightly produced scenes managed to convince the audience of a somber world where daughters are sacrificed and sons are murdered in greed or revenge.



Photo by Andrew Podrygula

Wails dominated the stage throughout the play as the women lamented their plight.

screams, "Why blame women for suffering you brought upon yourself?" when the murderer of her son dismisses their right to revenge murder. At the point of their revenge, when the women blind the murderer and kill his children, a praying mantis was displayed on the televisions, devouring another insect. The praying mantis female is famously known to devour the male after mating with him, a fitting metaphoric image of the power of women during the scene. Other fitting im-

Performers leap into Fall Dance Concert

By Claire Sibley
STAFF WRITER

It is impossible to isolate a work of art from its viewing; part exists only in performance, in the moments where it shares its life with an audience. In the case of dance, where hours upon hours of specific intention in creation take their form in the spontaneous freefall between performer and audience, these moments are crucial. Meaning emerges suddenly, unanticipated and unscripted, not only in bodies of the dancers, but in the minds and reception of the audience.

The performance of this Fall's Dance Concert, *The Place of Dance*, began with *Cheap Shots*, the Annual Newcomer's Piece, choreographed by Lecturer in Dance Penny Campbell. The dancers, dressed in an array of neon pastel tutus and single gloves, made the connection between participant and performing parties immediately evident; the movement alternated between smoothly kinetic movement of the trio and incidents of pointed stillness. In these, dancers Cameron McKinney '14, Jill Moshman '14 and Eleni Polychroniadou '14 ceased the separate synchronicity of their trio in motion and congregated in a deliberate pose, as if stopping for a picture. The effect was one of striking, and at times alarming, contrast between the fullness of existing and the flatness in the attempts to capture and reduce it. Whether intended or not, the piece brought to mind the strange two-dimensionality of our visually-fixed culture through movement that was at once playful and well-executed.

But the tone of the concert did not dwell on this or any specific issue; more than one of the following pieces seemed to occur in a time completely a part from the present while still succeeding in evoking emotion relevant to their audience. In both costume and tone, *A Web with Holes and Fastenings* (choreographed by Jeremy Cline '11.5 and Alena Giesche '11) and *When Shadows Illuminate* (choreographed

by David Anderson) seemed to emerge from a faraway and unspecified locale. The former, performed with mastery and graceful strength by each of the dancers, came to life especially in the connection between Cline and Giesche; at times, the pair seemed to exist as two halves of the same expressive whole. *A Web with Holes and Fastenings* was an ambitious and dynamic piece, managing to sustain interest throughout its duration and finishing with a feeling of completion. Anderson's piece, *When Shadows Illuminate*, was characterized by consistent, fluid movement; Alicia Evancho '12, Gillian Porter '13 and Danielle Gladstone '13 showcased his choreography with natural facility, and gave the final impression of leaves furling and unfurling in synchrony.

The sense of synchrony found itself present again in the choreography of both Alexandra Vasquez '12 and James Moore '12. Vasquez's piece, *In Full Agreement*, provided for a perfect post-intermission transition into the expression of the body. Performed by Lilah Leopold '12, Hannah Pierce '13 and Vasquez herself, the work was full of movement that seemed to derive from corporeal expression of feeling; it was as if each dancer had first felt the dance, and then performed it, falling into a kind of organic with the other two. On the other hand, the visual quality of Moore's *Neither You Nor Tomorrow* relied on a very different kind of synchrony: the fusion and separation of two bodies, and the tension that interplay creates in the mind. A duet between Moore and Alex Siega '12.5, the piece seemed to exist, and come alive, in the space between the pair. Each common motion was electric, each disconnect a loss.

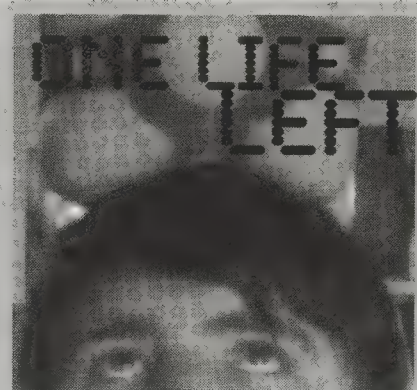
The Breaking, the lone solo piece of the show, found its place in the realm of the truly evocative. Performed and choreographed by Cat Miller '11, the work clearly seemed a study in the process of a consciousness undergoing change. While the sense of transition was present throughout the tone of the piece — includ-

ing costuming and music choice — it was most effective in the variety of Miller's movement quality. While naturally fluid and organically graceful, another pointed and poignantly raw quality emerged to yield a real kind of empathetic breaking.

Miller also danced with Sarah Chapin '12 in her duet *Drawn*; here, the dancers met each other in a state of real communion, a connection evident in their easy comfort and clarity of movement. The duo seemed to use their bodies as tools without delving into the impersonal, each part vibrant with its own unique energy. A sense of unity infused Chapin's piece, coming across as a kind of dynamic equilibrium.

Christian Morel '11's *Eros: A Terpsicorean Encomium*, the final duet of the concert, explored a kind of unity differing vastly in character from the previous works. The piece opens with Morel on stage alone; the movement quality is that of tortured indecision. This tone vacillates and evolves through solo until the entrance of dancer Julianna Mauriello '13; then, it is as if each dancer is effected by the other, but their evolutions exist independently and also individually. But the relation is undoubtedly present, each reflecting the emotion of themselves and the other in motion fitting to their body.

Sonia Hsieh's '10.5 senior independent work, entitled *Incarnate*, was the final dance of the concert, and was performed by Chapin, Miller, Hannah Stonebreaker '13, Jesse Birdsell '14 and the choreographer herself. Along the progress of the performance, the dancers would have moments of duet or trio that gave the impressions of vignettes, each with its own life and dynamic. Here, the strengths of each dancer surfaced to create a long conversation, a fluid composition of transition and interpersonal release. It made a fitting end for a concert characterized by both its variety and its surprisingly synchronicity: that of feeling undeniably exacted from its audience.



by Santiago Azpurua-Borras

Game | *Assassin's Creed: Brotherhood*

Platform | Xbox 360, PS3, PC

Rating | Mature

It's only been one year since developers Ubisoft Montreal dropped the second installment of their *Assassin's Creed* franchise, *Assassin's Creed 2*, but strangely enough, a year was enough to produce yet another fantastic title.

The story of *Brotherhood* begins where *Assassin's Creed 2* leaves off, so newcomers to the series will want to be wary. The player is Desmond Miles, a white-hoodie-wearing funny guy who uses the technology of the "Animus." With it he can relive the memories of his ancestors that have been encoded in his DNA. In this game, he jumps into the head of Ezio Auditore, a would-be Italian playboy turned master assassin. The assassins are trying to stop the Templars, a pseudo-Catholic secret organization bent on collecting the "Pieces of Eden" which will grant complete control over the human populace. Confusing? A little, but it's a great plot that allows for a lot of exploration of the game's rich universe. Or in this case, Renaissance Italy. Players can and will replay through different "memories" to forward the story while slowly rebuilding the city of Rome. As one collects money from completing missions, one can invest in businesses such as Tailors and Blacksmiths, which will slowly grow a pot of money that one can pick up in any bank around the city.

While simple on paper, this reconstruction aspect of the game is addicting. I found myself dedicating entire hours to just finding broken down shops and innovating them (and if you have the money, you can even buy famous landmarks such as the Coliseum or the Parthenon). Which brings me to the city of Rome itself. It's absolutely stunning. It looks and feels as it should, with some fictional lore thrown into the city for good measure.

The biggest addition to the overall game, however, is the multiplayer. At first I was skeptical, as most multiplayer nowadays feels cheap or hastily tacked on. This is not the case. I found here an experience that actually requires skill, patience and real powers of observation from the player, not usually found in most run and gun fests such as *Black Ops* or *Modern Warfare 2*. There are four game modes, all of which require you to hunt down another specific player. Here's the catch: the game doesn't tell you which character he/she is. AI-controlled clones of every player in the game populate the maps. This forces players to watch for what would otherwise be suspicious behavior. Kill the wrong character, and the game punishes you with point-detraction and a loss of your target. But the opposite also comes into play: kill an enemy discreetly, from above or wearing a disguise and the game rewards you with more points. It's the most fun I've had in the online realm in a very long time.

If you have been on the fence on whether or not this was just some sort of expansion pack, let me put those fears to rest. *Brotherhood* is a legitimate addition to the *Assassin's Creed* franchise, and an amazing one at that. But if you're new to the world of Desmond and Ezio, be sure to play *Assassin's Creed 2* before touching this one.

Assassin's Creed: Brotherhood gets a 9/10.



Photos by Andrew Podrygala

The Trestle at Pope Lick Creek: Audiences to Hepburn Zoo Nov. 18-20 found themselves transported to a dusty Depression-era town, where two friends have dared each other to race across a railroad bridge just before the 7:10 train hurtles over it. The play is told in flashbacks detailing the fateful attempt and its aftermath, which are further underlined by a pervasive sense of emptiness and desperation — what do people do when the American Dream has failed them? The story benefits from imaginative direction from Sasha Rivera '12 and a strong cast, featuring Sam Koplinka-Loehr '13, Adrienne Losch '12, Blakelee Clay-McBee '12, Kevin Thorsen '11 and Bill Noble '11.



Photo by Eleanor Horowitz

Subject Object: For the past two years, Ariel Ritchin '11 has been working on an independent portrait project, in which he asks college students to choose an object that defines them, and their favorite place or one that contributes to who they are. The show "Subject Object" will open at the McCullough Center Gallery on Friday from 4:30-6. Photographs will be on exhibit both in the Gallery upstairs and downstairs by Midd-Express.



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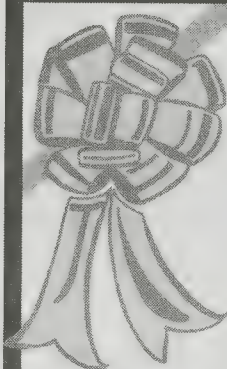
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POWER RANKINGS

COMPILED BY THE TUFTS DAILY

Thanks to a unanimous first-place showing in women's basketball, Amherst once again sits atop the latest installment of the NESCAC Power Rankings. Overall, the Lord Jeffs stayed below the three-point plateau thanks to strong showings across the board.

Close behind Amherst is Williams, who remained just behind its cross-state rival for the second straight week. The Ephs were tops in men's hockey and men's basketball and rang in second for women's basketball as well.

Bowdoin and Middlebury flip-flopped places at No. 3 and No. 4 for the second consecutive week, while Bates remained constant at No. 5. Hamilton and Trinity were the big movers, getting bumped up from eighth and ninth to sixth and seventh, respectively.

As a result, Colby fell from sixth to eighth and Tufts dropped from seventh to ninth. Wesleyan and Conn. College traded places at the bottom.

THIS WEEK	SCHOOL	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	MEN'S HOCKEY	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	AVERAGE	LAST WEEK
1	AMHERST	2.40	1.00	3.40	2.20	2.25	1 ↔
2	WILLIAMS	2.20	3.20	1.20	5.80	3.10	2 ↔
3	BOWDOIN	3.40	5.40	1.80	3.20	3.45	4 ↑
4	MIDDLEBURY	3.00	3.80	7.60	1.40	3.95	3 ↓
5	BATES	5.60	6.80	—	—	6.20	5 ↔
6	HAMILTON	—	—	5.20	7.80	6.50	8 ↑
7	TRINITY	4.80	8.20	9.60	3.60	6.55	9 ↑
8	COLBY	7.00	3.80	8.80	7.00	6.65	6 ↓
9	TUFTS	9.00	7.40	5.40	—	7.27	7 ↓
10	WESLEYAN	9.00	5.80	5.40	9.00	7.30	11 ↑
11	CONN. COLLEGE	8.60	9.60	6.60	5.00	7.45	10 ↓

The poll was devised as follows: Each voter ranked all NESCAC schools in each sport, and those scores were averaged to create a composite ranking for each sport. The composites were then averaged to determine each school's overall ranking. Note that Hamilton does not compete in men's and women's basketball in the NESCAC, Bates does not compete in men's and women's hockey and Tufts does not compete in women's hockey.

This week's list was determined by polling Amro El-Adle (Amherst Student), James Reidy and Seth Walder (Bowdoin Orient), Mike Flint and Nick Woolf (Conn. College Voice), Katie Siegner (Middlebury Campus) and Alex Prewitt (Tufts Daily).

DESIGN BY STEVEN SMITH/TUFTS DAILY

sportsbrief

By Katie Siegner, Sports Editor

Two Panthers footballers named as Academic All-Americans

Middlebury has long prided itself on its dual status as a prestigious liberal arts college as well as a powerhouse in the world of Div.-III sports. Student athletes are expected to live up to these rigorous expectations, and successfully balance the demands of their schoolwork with a strong commitment to their team, which is no easy feat. This past Tuesday, two Panther football players received recognition for embodying this excellence in the classroom and on the playing fields — Anthony Kuchan '11 and David Reed '11 were named District I Academic All-Americans by CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors Association).

To be eligible for the honor, the student athlete must maintain a GPA of 3.30 or higher and be a starter or important reserve on their team. CoSIDA members nominate potential candidates from the academic institution with which they are affiliated.

The two seniors made significant contributions to the Panthers' football program, with Kuchan finishing his career 19 of 24 in field goal attempts (a nearly 80 percent

completion record) and Reed accumulating 79 receptions for 782 yards. Between the two of them, they contributed 160 points to the team over the course of their four years.

Perhaps even more significantly, Kuchan and Reed upheld the standard of excellence that Middlebury demands of its students, helping to maintain the College's impressive reputation. Reed holds a solid 3.65 GPA as an economics major, and Kuchan, a political science and economics major, holds a 3.47 GPA, well above the required minimum.

"I'll bet Reggie Bush didn't have a double major," said Kuchan, a line that highlights a widely acknowledged difference between Division III and major D-I programs — at a D-III school it's more common for the athlete to have the chance to pursue legitimate and rigorous courses of study. While Kuchan's dual degrees might not earn him as much as Reggie Bush's salary, he is at least well poised to succeed in "the real world" post-graduation.

The Academic All-American honor represents a fitting conclusion for the incredibly successful careers of these two senior athletes.

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Women's basketball runs through competition

By Dillon Hupp
SPORTS EDITOR

With a 75-40 victory over Johnson & Wales on Saturday, the Middlebury women's basketball team improved their record to 4-0, their best start since 2007, and continued to build momentum towards conference play in January. Included in the wins were triumphs over Nazareth and Brockport, which made the Panthers the winners of the Brockport Invitational Tournament held in New York.

"Winning the Brockport Tournament meant a lot to the team," said co-captain Lauren Sanchez '11, who was named MVP of the tournament after scoring 47 points in the two games, including 30 in the Panthers' opening round win over Nazareth. "Taking home that trophy really set the tone for the entire season."

Brittany Perfetti '12 was also named to the All-tournament team for her performance in Brockport.

Following their success in New York, the Panthers opened the home part of their schedule with a 92-58 win over in-state rival Norwich at Pepin Gymnasium over Thanksgiving break. The 92 points scored

by Middlebury were the most scored by the team since 1998, and a strong defensive performance punctuated a Panther victory in which the victorious ladies never trailed. Maddie Moreau '12 led the team with 17 points in the game, followed by Sanchez and Perfetti, who added 16 each, and Stephany Surrette '12, who had 10 points to go along with her eight rebounds.

"We expect to win every game this season," said Surrette. "We set the bar incredibly high in the off-season, and we can now see it paying off immensely."

Middlebury followed the victory over Norwich with a 75-40 defeat over Johnson and Wales at home on Saturday night. After a slow start, Middlebury exploded on a 10-0 run halfway through the first period, sparked by five points from guard Katie Logan '13 and four points from Perfetti, and led 24-12 with seven and a half minutes to play. The Panthers turned that advantage into a 33-23 halftime lead and never looked back, outscoring Johnson & Wales 26-5 over the last 10 minutes of play to complete the blowout victory. Sarah Marcus '14 led the Panthers with 14 points against the Wildcats, highlighting four Middlebury players who finished in double-figures.

Through the first four games of the season Sanchez leads all Panther scorers with 18.8 points per game, and also leads the team in assists. Sanchez is followed by Perfetti, who is averaging 11.3 points per game, and Surrette, who contributes 9.5 points per game and nine rebounds per game.

The Panthers' hot start this year is in marked contrast to their 1-3 start from last year's campaign. Additionally, Middlebury is scoring at a much higher clip to start this season than they were at any point last season, averaging nearly 78 points per game as a team, and are blowing out their opposition in a way that they rarely displayed last season.

"We're not surprised by the 4-0 start, but I don't think any of us expected to be scoring nearly 80 points a game and beating our opponents by upwards of 30 points sometimes," said Sanchez, who cites the team's work ethic and preseason training as the key contributor to the early-season success. "We trained and practiced harder than ever before — we had 6:45 am team runs and drills that made us both physically and mentally better as a team. It's great to see so much work and dedication starting to pay off."

The Panthers will look to continue their hot start on Saturday, when they play at Union College.



Andrew Podrygula, Photo Editor
Middlebury blew past its first four opponents.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD				
Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
11/28	Men's basketball	Johnson St.	86-31 W	Johnson St. must have still been in a post-Thanksgiving food coma for this game, because clearly they didn't come to play.
11/26 11/27	Men's hockey	Norwich St. John's	3-0 L 2-1 W	The Panthers shook off their early-season jitters in this tournament and turned in two solid showings against good teams.
11/27 11/28	Women's hockey	Colby Bowdoin	3-0 W 5-2 W	Solidifying their place as the team to beat in the NESCAC right now, the Panthers defeated two more conference competitors.
11/27	Women's basketball	Johnson & Wales	75-40 W	The Panthers got off to a much-improved start to the season, taking down four non-conference opponents. Look out, NESCAC.
11/20	Women's cross country	NCAA Nationals	First overall	The women's team continues to add to their long list of accolades and awards with their sixth NCAA championship.

BY THE NUMBERS	
2	Number of Panther football players who were named to the District I Academic All-American team.
52	Number of points Ryan Sharry '12 has accumulated in the first four games of the season.
25	Millions of dollars Derek Jeter believes he is worth per season.
15	Millions of dollars the Yankees believe Derek Jeter is worth per season.
9	Millions of dollars Brooks and Dillon believe Derek Jeter is worth per season.

Editors' Picks				
Questions	Katie Siegner	Brooks Coe	Dillon Hupp	Lea Calderon-Guthe Editor-in-Chief
Who will defeat Union by a wider margin, men's or women's basketball?	MEN This year's team rivals most in sheer height advantage.	MEN With Locke scoring at a rate we've never seen before, this offense is fearsome.	MEN But with the women scoring like never before this year, I'm not entirely sure about this pick.	WOMEN Both teams are off to a great start, but I have a feeling this is the ladies' time to shine.
Will men's hockey pull their record to .500 by the end of this weekend?	YES Gotta keep the faith.	NO They will in time, but I'm not banking on a three-game winning streak yet.	YES This team is too good to just keep taking these beatings for too long.	YES We can rally.
Who will win the BCS national title?	WHO'S PLAYING?	OREGON This is the second time I've had to look up what the BCS even is.	AUBURN Oregon is fun to watch, but at the end of the day I'll stick with the SEC.	OREGON I've got friends in Eugene and they say U of O is sick this year. Go duckies duckies duckies...
Who will lead women's hockey in goals versus Williams on Saturday?	ANNA MCNALLY '11 For the win.	ANNA MCNALLY '11 She just topped 100 career goals, how could I not pick her?	JULIA IRELAND '11 McNally's not the only high-scoring senior on this team.	ANNA MCNALLY '11 You can also bet that none of the Williams' players will lead with Lexi Bloom '11 in the goal.
Will Carl Crawford have signed with a new team by our next issue?	YES Those spoiled Yankees always seem to get whatever they want.	YES Mega deal from the Angels, just before Christmas. 7 years and 130 million.	YES I've learned never to pick against Brooks in these matters. He has Bud Selig on speed dial.	YES I'm going to go with my smart sports editors on this one.
Career Record	66-93 (.415)	19-29 (.396)	25-23 (.521)	0-0 (.000)

Swimming and diving opens season with trio of road meets

By Kevin Yochim
STAFF WRITER

The men's and women's diving teams started off the season with back-to-back away meets the weekend of Nov. 20-21, swimming against Tufts and Connecticut College in New London on Saturday and at Springfield College on Sunday. The women defeated Tufts while falling in close matches against Springfield and Connecticut. The men dropped all three contests, including a narrow 153-146 defeat by Springfield.

Although the women were only able to pull off one win on the weekend, there were several strong individual performances. Katherine Loftus '12 easily won the 1,000-yard freestyle on Saturday and came in second to teammate Nora Daly '12 in the 200-yard freestyle on Sunday. Captains John Dillon '11 and Matthew Vukich '11 paced the men on Sunday with two individual wins each along with their contributions to the Panthers' strong relay teams.

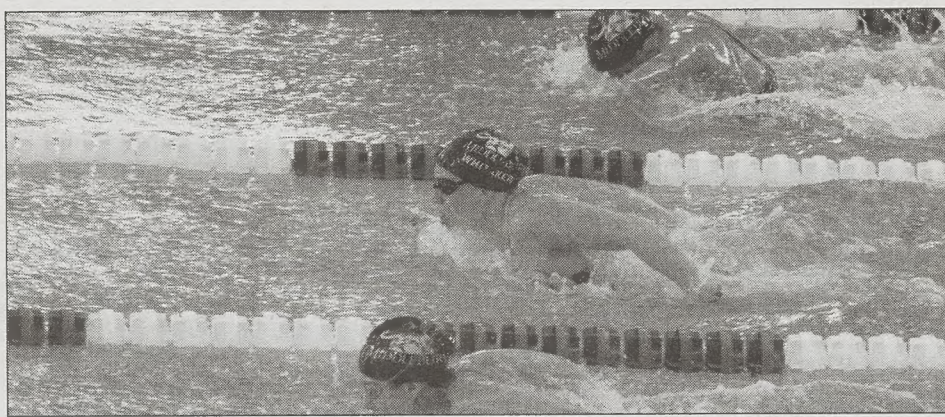
"We really need to have everyone get on the same page," said Coach Peter Solomon. "We left some swimmers at school due to academic issues, and if we had them with us the meets might have played out differently and more in our favor. I certainly think we have the potential to surprise people at the end of the season, but right now we really need to get on the same page as a team."

First-year swimmers Andie Tibbetts '14 and Nick Keenan '14 both had fantastic starts to their Panther careers. Tibbetts won the 100-yard backstroke on both days while Keenan won the 400-yard individual medley on Saturday and the 200-yard freestyle on Sunday.

Sprinter Ian Mackay '14 had a great debut as well, placing fifth in the 50-yard freestyle on Saturday and first on Sunday with times of 22.52 and 22.64 seconds, respectively. Several other first-year athletes competed fiercely over the weekend and will be counted on to continue improving over the course of the season.

Also winning races over the weekend for the women were Jessie Ward '11, Rachel Curtiss '14 and Alexandra Edel '14.

The Panthers are well-rested after Thanksgiving break and look to put up a strong fight against rival Amherst College Saturday at 1:00 at the Natatorium.



File Photo

The women's team opened the season with a 1-2 record, while the men dropped the first three.

Panthers down four non-conference opponents

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

The team had big plays on defense, with 15 blocked shots — including six from captain Andrew Locke '11 — while continuing to shoot well from the field, hitting over 50 percent of their attempts.

St Joseph's kept it close throughout the first half, only trailing by five points going into the break. However, the Panthers were able

to pull away in the second period due in large part to a 14-2 run in the middle of the fourth quarter. Locke led all scorers with 15 points.

Middlebury continued their lights out shooting and constricting defense in their home opener at Pepin, getting off to a 4-0 start with an easy 86-31 victory over Johnson State. The Panthers shot an incredible 64 percent from the floor, hitting 50 percent of their three point attempts while holding

the Badgers to less than 25 percent shooting. The Panthers were able to overcome an early deficit thanks in large part to a 21-6 run in the middle of the first quarter. Led by Sharry's 13 points, the team also benefited from its depth of talent — 14 different Panthers scored during the game, as the bench continues to be a strong point for the team.

We are the best-dressed team in the NESCAC.

—Winslow Hicks '12

at Union before heading into the break," said guard Winslow Hicks '12. "Not only do we have a solid team this year, but we are by far the best-dressed team in the NESCAC."

The Panthers wrap up the 2010 portion of the season with a road game at Union this Saturday, where they will strive to build on this undefeated streak, undoubtedly gunning to surpass men's soccer's impressive 7-0 start to the season.

"After a 5-0 start, we're looking to finish strong with a win

Ski teams train over break for upcoming 2011 season

By Brooks Coe
SPORTS EDITOR

The Middlebury Alpine and Nordic ski teams kicked off their seasons on the snow during their Thanksgiving break trips. The Alpine teams headed to Vail, Colo., while the Nordic teams traveled to West Yellowstone, Mont. After training off the powder for months, both teams were eager to get back on the snow.

"It provided us with a great chance to get on the snow, since the East is lacking any form of it," said men's Alpine captain Bobby Poehling '11. "Everyone's fundamentals are looking sound, and over the next couple weeks we will be working to get our timing down and get our race pace back."

Unfortunately, this opportunity came with a price: waking up for a 7 a.m. session of grand slalom on Thanksgiving morning in single digit temperatures. Forgoing family camaraderie and turkey are just a few of many sacrifices the teams must make in order to prepare themselves for the highly anticipated upcoming season.

The men's team is returning their entire NCAA Championship team from last season, including Bryan Shpall '13, Jake Lund '11 and Poehling, the members of the team who captured fourth place in the slalom and fifth in grand slalom at the NCAA Championships. Supplementing this core of returning skiers is the large first-year class of Nick Bailey '14, Robert Cone '14, Liam Mulhern '14 and Hig Roberts '14.

"The four freshman will contribute to a men's team that will rival the best in the carnival circuit," said Poehling.

On the women's Alpine team, the key to this season will be keeping the team healthy.

The team will be returning captains Nicole Dvorak '11 and Tash Woodworth '11, the racers

who competed at last year's NCAA Championships. The team will look for contributions from their newest additions, Emily Hammel '14 and Emma Kitchen '14.

"We will be looking toward a couple individual carnival wins this season on the men's and women's side, along with numerous other individuals climbing the podium," said Poehling.

With the Alpine teams atop the mountains in Colorado, the men's and women's Nordic teams spent their Thanksgiving in the picturesque setting of West Yellowstone. Blessed with nearly two feet of snow on the day they arrived, the Nordic skiers took to the hills only 30 seconds away from their cabins. The team was so excited to get off the roller skis and onto the snow that they were hardly perturbed by the couple of days when the temperature never broke into the positive digits.

"We return a strong core of juniors and seniors, four of which skied in the top 10 at Carnivals," said Nordic co-captain Graham Egan '11.

"Everybody was psyched to be skiing and made transition to the snow seamlessly," said men's co-captain Jimmy Levins '11. "In terms of technique, the team is skiing well above expectations for this time of year. I think everyone is in a great place to begin to make the small adjustments we need to make to be ready to race."

Both teams will be looking for a bounce-back from last year's finish in the NCAA championships, where the women finished 17th and 18th in the 5K and 15K and the men finished 13th and 11th in the 10K and 20K. Levins is confident that the team will see improvement as the season progresses.

"We have a great team this year that has been pushing each other every day, and that will continue throughout the season," said Levins.

Men's hockey performs well at PrimeLink Shootout

By Katie Siegner
SPORTS EDITOR

After a rocky season-opening weekend in which the Panthers lost to two mediocre NESCAC opponents, the men's hockey team got down to business as they traveled to Plattsburgh, N.Y. to play in the competitive PrimeLink Great Northern Shootout Nov. 26-27. In its first two games of the season the team set disappointing precedents, getting shut out of the home opener for the first time since 1940 and dropping its first two contests for the first time in 17 years.

The weekend of Nov. 19-20, the Panthers lost to Tufts 3-0 and Conn. College 5-3, with both losses underscoring a similar story. Middlebury outshot its opponents by wide margins in both games, yet the offense failed to capitalize on power play opportunities. In Friday's shutout loss, the Panthers had several opportunities to score in the third period, but could not find the back of the net, while Tufts scored an insurance goal then added another open-net shot when Middlebury pulled its goalie with three minutes left. Saturday's game also could have gone either way, as the Panthers battled back to tie the game at 2 before letting it slip away in the third period.

Despite these initial setbacks, the Panthers rallied to deliver two impressive performances in the tournament held at Plattsburgh the following weekend. The day after Thanksgiving the team took on the top-ranked Div. III team in the country, Norwich, in a competitive match. The Panthers again struggled to take advantage of power plays, going 0-10 on the day, but John Yanchek '11 delivered a stellar 30-save performance to keep the game close and the offense more or less matched the Cadets in shots, with Norwich holding a 33-27 advantage.

Middlebury certainly proved that it could keep pace with the best in the country on Friday, and Saturday the team finally translated this immense promise into results for the win column. The Panthers took on St. Johns of Minnesota in the consolation game, winning 2-1 thanks to a last-minute finish from co-captain Charlie Strauss '11 to secure the team's first win of the season.

The game started off on a promising note when first-year J.D. Vermette '14 scored his first goal as a Panther eight minutes into the first period. The Panthers held the lead throughout the second period and dominated offensively — Middlebury nearly doubled its opponents' shot output, outshooting the

Johnnies 41-22 on the game.

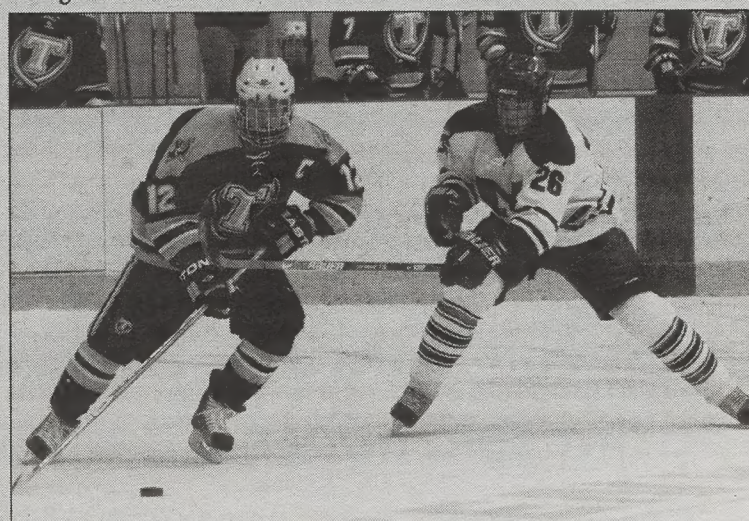
Nevertheless, a St. Johns power-play goal in the third period tied the game at one, with ten minutes remaining for Middlebury to answer. The Panthers kept up the offensive pressure and finally broke through with just 2:30 remaining, when Trevor Pollock '13 assisted Strauss' clutch goal to give Middlebury the 2-1 win.

"We're looking to build off that win going into the upcoming road weekend vs. Southern Maine and the University of New England," said forward Jak Knelman '12. "As we approach the last game weekend before break, the team is focused and looking to build momentum going into the new year."

The Panthers refuse to be derailed by the 1-3 start to the season, and are committed

to working out the kinks in their game before the season kicks into full swing in January.

"We're determined to get better and have been putting a stronger emphasis on finishing our scoring chances in practice, hoping it will translate into games," said Tom Cantwell '12. The Panthers have the chance to return to .500 with two road wins this weekend, and by Winter Term should be well poised for a return to their accustomed dominance.



Andrew Podrygala, Photo Editor

The Panthers dropped their first two NESCAC games of the season.

Panthers start season with 5-game win streak

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

back line and senior goaltender Lexi Bloom '11. The third period belonged to the Panthers however, who outshot the Polar Bears 15-8 and scored an open-net goal with time expiring. Over the course of the game the Panthers outshot the Polar Bears 51-19 and had 11 power play opportunities compared to Bowdoin's three.

The Panthers fast start is encouraging for head coach Bill Mandigo. The Panthers have accumulated wins over NESCAC opponents Bowdoin, Colby, Connecticut College and Hamilton, bolstering the team to an early lead in the conference. A day before their convincing win over Bowdoin, the Panthers beat Colby (2-2) 3-0.

"I thought the defense played well and moved the puck quickly and intelligently," said Mandigo. "The forwards battled hard and we had two excellent goals from Grace Waters '12 and McNally."

The Panthers have also been sparked by the play of Bloom in goal. The senior from Highland Park, Ill. was named the NESCAC player of the week after posting a shutout over Hamilton and then another dominant performance against Connecticut College in the first weekend of the season. Bloom saved 46 of 48 shots in the two games en route to two Panthers victories.

"Lexi has played very well," said Mandigo. "She has been aggressive in the net, has communicated very well with her teammates in the defensive zone and has been a very confident goaltender. Lexi's teammates have tremendous confidence in her."

Mandigo also stressed that, despite the Panthers terrific start to the season, there are aspects of the game that his players can continue to improve upon. "They need to stay focused, con-

tinue to battle in the corners and in front of the net to win pucks and find a way to put the puck in the net consistently," Mandigo said.

The Panthers have gotten off to a great start to their season and will look to build on their win streak this Saturday, when they host the Ephs of Williams (1-3). A better barometer for the Panthers season may come shortly after winter recess when the Panthers travel to Plattsburgh, N.Y. for the Panther/Cardinal Classic.



Andrew Podrygala, Photo Editor

Panther forwards dominated their opponents, as Middlebury scored 17 goals in five games.

Men's soccer ends NCAA run in quarterfinals

By Owen Teach
STAFF WRITER

In the world of sports, one second can create a fine line between winning and losing. The Middlebury men's soccer team learned that lesson the hard way at the Sectionals of the NCAA tournament two weekends ago, as the Panthers fell to the Bowdoin Polar Bears at the 99:59 mark of overtime just as the period was expiring.

The season-concluding loss, which ended the Panthers exciting Div.III NCAA tournament run that featured several thrilling last-minute wins of their own, put the NESCAC champion squad's final record at 16-4-1. The win total, second in school history only to the 2007 national championship side, is an impressive accomplishment for the team, but also leaves them wondering what could have been.

The NCAA sectional weekend started out with a contentious Sweet 16 matchup against the perennial New England power Babson College. Both sides had several chances in the first half, with the most promising coming when Jon Portman's '13 blast from the top of the box hit the post and was cleared out of harm's way. Middlebury's leading scorers finally broke through late in the evenly-played second half at the 79:03 mark, as Otis Pitney '12 slotted a ball past the Babson keeper off an interception and feed from Tyler Macnee '12.

"By the time you get to the last 16 of this tournament, there are no weak teams left," said coach Dave Saward. "However, I felt that, based on the general run of play, we deserved the victo-

ry." The win pitted the Panthers against a tough Bowdoin team for a third time this season, and also secured Middlebury's third NCAA quarterfinal birth in the last four years.

In Sunday's elite eight matchup, Brett Brazier '13 broke the even deadlock early in the second half, scoring on a left-footed shot inside the right post off a cross from fellow sophomore Rob Cole '13. After the goal, however, the Polar Bears dominated the run of play.

"Both teams played very well, and to be honest, when Bowdoin tied the game with eight minutes left, it was what their efforts deserved," said Saward. "After we took the lead, Bowdoin was the more dominant team and only two magnificent saves from Tim Cahill '12 and some very desperate defending from the back four kept Bowdoin off the board for that long." The goal also marked the end of Cahill's astonishing 281:46-minute consecutive shutout streak against Bowdoin this year.

The game seemed destined for a second overtime when Bowdoin was awarded a free kick with just less than fifteen seconds left in the first extra period. However, after a quick restart, a headed ball off the post, and a finish by Bowdoin's Zach Danssaert, the game was over as the final horn sounded. According to Saward, this was one of the most disappointing finishes in his 26-year coaching career.

"Yes it was very painful," said Saward, "especially because there was the added question of 'did the ball actually cross the line before time expired?' — a question that can never accurately

be answered."

The Panthers can hold their heads high, however, as this team turned out one of the best seasons in school history and also provided fans with many dramatic wins. On the defensive side, goalie Tim Cahill recorded 12 shutouts and the stingy back four conceded a mere 11 goals in 21 matches.

"If you look at most successful teams in any sport, their defensive ability is critical to providing a foundation to win games," said Saward. "Harrison Watkins '11 and Jake Edwards '11 were magnificent as our 'generals' on the field. In addition, Carson Cornbrooks '11 leaves Middlebury as simply the hardest worker on the soccer field that I have ever coached."

The graduating class of 2010 (Watkins, Andrew Strumolo, Taylor Wilkins, Edwards and Cornbrooks) played in four NESCAC finals, two NESCAC championships, three NCAA Elite Eight matches and the 2007 National Championship victory. It also produced two All-Americans, one NESCAC Player of the Year (Watkins), seven NESCAC All-stars and eight All-NESCAC academic recipients.

"To put it mildly, that record is fantastic," says Saward. "In this team's case, the players have achieved an enormous amount and can be rightfully proud of the legacy that they leave."

Next year's squad now turns its focus to working hard over the off-season. The Panthers will return leading scorers Macnee and Pitney, as well as starting goalie Cahill and much of the core of the 2010 team.

Arkansas is the best state in the country and if anybody disagrees with me I'll fight them in front of Proctor Friday morning

by Dillon Hupp, Sports Editor

It's that time of year again, folks. Thanksgiving has come and gone, the turkeys have been eaten, the dishes have been washed, the crazy uncles have been put back out to pasture — all that's left is to decide the major college football championships and start our nation's annual hatefest on the antichrist of college football, the Bowl Championship Series. For those of you who don't know, the BCS is the current way of deciding the Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division 1-A) national champion. It is comprised of five bowl games — one of which is a pre-designated national championship rumble for the teams ranked one and two in the BCS standings; the other four invite the champions from the automatic qualifying conferences, the best team from the non-AQ conferences and fill the remaining spots with highly-ranked at large teams.

The BCS was created in order to ensure that the most deserving teams played for the title, while still appropriating spots in prestigious bowls for major conference champions. Sounds fair, right? Well, not according to the mainstream sports media, which would rank the BCS slightly behind Hitler and slightly ahead of Regan's domestic policies on the list of most blatantly evil things of all time. Every year a Boise St., a Hawaii or a TCU goes undefeated and suddenly cries of "unfair!" and "playoff!" resound from sea to shining sea, the classic case of sports writers rooting for David against Goliath.

Never mind that what Goliath does dictates the entire college sports landscape, and pays the sportswriter's salaries in the first place. Never mind that the teams from the AQ play schedules that would make the little schools quake in their little WAC cleats. Take a team like Arkansas, for example. This year they finished 10-2, with their only two losses coming to (at the time) #1 ranked Alabama and #2 ranked Auburn. Are you telling me they are not more deserving of going to a major bowl than Boise St., whose marquee victory this year came over a Virginia Tech team that lost to James Madison and that couldn't even make a 26-yard field goal to beat Nevada?

I admit a bit of a regional bias (If I had it my way the winner of the SEC would be the automatic national champion), but the fact of the matter remains that strength of schedule simply cannot be ignored. And teams that regularly feast on Louisiana Tech and Utah St. while losing to Nevada simply do not belong in the BCS title game.

Is the BCS system perfect? Absolutely not. Does the Big East deserve an automatic bid? Probably not, although the addition of TCU will strengthen that conference's football street cred. But the simple fact is that the BCS gets it right most of the time, and doesn't get enough credit for that. Who could forget Penn St. vs. Florida St. in 2006, which pitted the legendary Bowden against the incomparable Paterno? Or Boise St. vs. Oklahoma in 2007, maybe the best college football game ever played? And when it comes to national championship games, it's hard for any team to argue that they were excluded, except for maybe Auburn in 2005. This year, the BCS will get it right. If neither #1 Auburn or #2 Oregon loses their season finale, they will play for the title. If either of them lose, TCU will be ushered in. And guess what? TCU (for the time being) is from a non-AQ conference. That's some pretty sneaky fairness there, BCS.

— Dillon Hupp '12 is a sports editor from Little Rock, Ar. He met Rex Ryan at the Newark airport on Friday. It was awesome.

The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	11/18	Team	Dillon's Discourses
1	7	Women's Cross Country	Bringin' home the national championship hardware and sending Coach Aldrich out in style.
2	2	Men's soccer	If they'd scored more than one goal in the Elite Eight, they might be #1 in the Great Eight.
3	N/A	Women's Hockey	These girls are so hot it's suprising they don't melt the ice.
4	N/A	Men's Bball	Big men Sharry and Locke are lifting the Panthers above their competition (get it?)
5	N/A	Women's Bball	With an explosive offense and an undefeated start, these girls are proving there's more than one exciting basketball team in Middlebury.
6	7	Men's Cross Country	Finishing 21st-best in the country is still a pretty good season in my book.
7	N/A	Swimming and Diving	Winter never really struck me as swimming season. More like "Trapped under the ice and drowning" season.
8	N/A	Men's Hockey	Not only can they not play hockey, but they lost all my stuff with their Campus Storage operation this summer.



File Photo

Women's Cross country finished the fall with the top spot in the Great Eight, winning their sixth national championship in the process.

Women's cross country runs to sixth national title, men place 21st

By Brigit Carlson
STAFF WRITER

The Panthers finished their season the way they started it — on top. The women's cross country team took home their sixth NCAA win in 11 years, giving the school its 31st title since 1995, and the men finished their first-ever NCAA championships in a respectable 21st place overall. Coach Aldrich could not have imagined a better send-off for his final season.

"I have never been more proud of any team I have coached at Middlebury," said Aldrich. "They set a goal at the start of the season, worked as hard as any cross country team ever has, believed in themselves and accomplished their goals."

The women's victory hinged on several key aspects of the race that the Panthers have honed all season. Coach Aldrich credits the depth of the women's team, as well as their ability to run as a team and the 26-second spread between their first and fifth runners, as essential

components of the team's success. The Panthers won with 185 points, beating Washington and M.I.T. for the title.

The first five Panthers across the line spanned the classes, with a first-year, a sophomore, two juniors and a senior placing for Middlebury — a further testament to the depth of talent in the Panther squad. First across the finish line for the championship team was Colette Whitney '14, a fitting end to a standout rookie season for the New Jersey native. Whitney finished with a time of 21:54, good for 24th place overall.

Behind her was Addie Tousley '13 in 29th, rebounding nicely from an illness-plagued season to deliver a crucial finish for the team. Tri-captain Margo Cramer '12 came in hard on Tousley's heels, finishing 31st with a time of 21:58. They were followed by Hannah Meier '11 in 47th, Claire McIlvennie '12 in 54th place, Maddie Hubbell '14 in 66th and Katie Rominger '14 in 118th.

"For the women to win, especially in Terry's last year was more than we could have asked for," said

Panthers' fifth-place finisher McIlvennie. "It was truly a team effort. It was a hard race, with a lot of really strong teams, but together we got through it and at the end of the day, the strength of our pack, something we've relied on all season, paid off."

McIlvennie was also excited to see the men make their historic appearance at the meet. "Having the full team, both women and men, out in Iowa was pretty special and just added to the excitement of the weekend," she concluded.

The men finished the race with a score of 520, and the impressive showing at their first national meet was a testament to the team's work ethic in practice.

"On the men's side, Michael Schmidt '12 has raised the bar with respect to what our men's team has been able to accomplish in practice, and the heightened work ethic has resulted in a substantially faster team," said Aldrich.

Schmidt, the lightning-fast Illinois native, led the team across the finish line in 34th with a time of 25:04. He was followed by a pack of Panthers finishing before the 26-minute mark — Jack Davies '13 in 96th (25:39), Jack Terrett '11 in 110th (25:46) and Greg Krathwohl in 114th. Next across the line for the Panthers were Nate Sans '14 in 166th, Taylor Sundali '13 in 179th and Sam Miller '12 in 216th.

Coach Terry Aldrich, who is retiring in December, was honored as National Coach of the Year in his final season with the Panthers.

"This season has been a dream come true for me in my final year. As one parent who made the trip to Iowa put it, 'Hollywood could not have scripted your final season any better.' It's a season and a team I will never forget."



Courtesy / Claire McIlvennie

Michael Schmidt '12 and Jack Terrett '11 lead the pack at the NCAA regionals.



Courtesy / Clair McIlvennie

The women receive the trophy, signifying Middlebury's 31st national title.

Men's basketball opens 2010-2011 campaign on a 4-0 tear

By Andrew Silver
STAFF WRITER

While most of us were enjoying turkey and catching up on sleep, the Middlebury men's basketball team got off to an undefeated start over the break thanks to incredible shooting and tenacious defense.

The four-game win streak that the Panthers are riding began during the UMass-Dartmouth tournament that took place the first weekend of the season in which the Panthers, led by tournament MVP Ryan Sharry '12, were victorious. Middlebury, ranked ninth nationally before the tournament opener, came away with a 63-60 victory against Baruch. The Panthers' swarming defense played a key role in the victory, as the Bearcats were held to just 30 percent field goal shooting, counteracting Middlebury's 1-13 shooting from behind the arc and

ten missed free throws.

The game was a battle throughout all four quarters, as the score was tied on 15 different

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Friday, November 19

Middlebury	63
Baruch	60

Saturday, November 20

Middlebury	88
UMass-Dartmouth	62

Tuesday, November 23

Middlebury	83
St. Joseph's	69

Sunday, November 28

Middlebury	86
Johnson State	31

occasions. A fourth-quarter jump shot with only six seconds left by sophomore guard Jake Wolfen '13 broke the final tie, giving the Panthers a 62-60 lead. The Bearcats had one last opportunity to tie the game with seconds left, but could

not capitalize on either of two free throw attempts as Middlebury secured the victory.

Just a day later, the Panthers won the tournament and got off to a 2-0 start, beating host school UMass-Dartmouth 86-62 in the finals. The Panthers controlled the game throughout both periods, shooting 52 percent from the floor while connecting on 7 of 11 three-point attempts. Middlebury also dominated defensively, holding a 41-27 advantage in rebounds. Senior forward Ryan Wholey '11 led the team with 21 points while Sharry added 15 points and 11 rebounds.

The following Tuesday, the Panthers took the momentum of the tournament victory into their first non-tournament game, earning a road victory over St. Joseph's College with a score of 83-69.

SEE PANTHERS, PAGE 22

Women's hockey sets off season undefeated

By Damon Hatheway
STAFF WRITER

It's hard to imagine how the women's hockey team could have had a better start to the 2010-2011 season. The Panthers beat NESCAC rivals Bowdoin on Sunday to improve to 5-0 early in the season, handing the Polar Bears (3-1) their first loss of the season with an impressive 5-2 victory. Senior forward Anna McNally '11 delivered a standout performance, as the co-captain finished the game with two of the five goals. McNally broke a scoreless tie 13 minutes into the game, scoring the game's first goal, and later sealed the Panthers victory with an open-net goal with 13 seconds remaining to give the Panthers a 5-2 lead. The goals were McNally's second and third of the year and marked the 100th point of her career.

McNally's first goal came on the Panthers third power play of the game and was assisted by Heidi Woodworth '11 and co-captain Julia Ireland '11. The Panthers converted twice more

on power plays, finishing Sunday's home match with three power play goals in 11 chances.

Despite the Panthers' early control of the game, the Polar Bears managed a first-period goal to tie the game at one with 4:35 remaining when junior forward Shelagh Merrill scored an unassisted goal. The tie was short-lived however, as the Panthers responded with three second-period goals. Ireland scored her third goal of the season early into the second period, giving the Panthers a lead they wouldn't relinquish. Soon after, first-year Sara Ugalde '14 also netted her third of the year on a Panther power play. The high-scoring Panthers struck again less than three minutes later when Madison Styrbicki '13 scored an unassisted goal to push the Panthers lead to 4-1 midway through the second period.

The Polar Bears cut into the deficit late in the second quarter, when Kendra Sweet beat the Middlebury

SEE PANTHERS, PAGE 23



Andrew Podrygula, Photo Editor

Alexi Bloom '11 has been nearly impenetrable in goal for the Panthers.

this week in sports

Men's hockey
The Panthers start off the season with a 1-3 record, page 22.



games to watch
Women's hockey vs. Williams, Dec. 4 at 3 p.m.
Swimming and diving vs. Amherst, Dec. 4 at 1 p.m.



Men's soccer
The team finished the season with the second-most wins in program history, page 23.